

**Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**January 14, 2015**  
**U of M Environmental Interpretive Center**  
**Dearborn, MI 48128**

**Directors Present:** Keith Armitage (KA), Alice Bailey (AB), Heather Esper (HE), Adam Cloutier (AC), Mike Darga (MD), Chester Marvin (CM), Mike McNulty (MM), Sharon Oliver-Merchant (SOM), Carla Rigsby (CR2), Brandy Siedlaczek (BS), William Stone (WS), Susan Thompson (ST), Steve Weis (SW) (13 total)

**Directors Excused:** Andrew Hoffman (AH), Dave Norwood (DN) (2 total)

**Directors Absent:** None

**Staff Members Present:** Aimee LaLonde-Norman (ALN), Karen Hannah (KH), Cyndi Ross (CR) (3 total)

1) CALL TO ORDER – President Michael Darga called the meeting to order at 5:09 pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by ST, second by SW, motion carried.

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. November 12, 2014

Motion to approve minutes made by SW, second by HE, motion carried.

4) INTRODUCTIONS

5) “OUR STORY” PRESENTATION

BS, AC, ALN and CR led presentation and group activity to develop/practice telling individual FOTR story. The group is challenged to share their story with three people before the next meeting

6) COMMITTEE AND PROGRAM REPORTS (Informational)

a. Executive Director Report

b. Rouge Education Project (REP)

c. Volunteer Monitoring/River Restoration (PI)

d. Membership Committee Report

e. Nominating Committee Report.

f. Fund Development Committee (no report)

g. Finance Committee/Treasurer’s Report

i. October 2014

ii. November 2014

7) NEW BUSINESS

a. Election of 2015 Officers

See nominations list/election results (attached)

b. Board Meeting Schedule

i. 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Month

The group agrees to retain the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month for Board meetings

c. Committee Selection

i. Meeting schedule

Committee sign up list circulated

7) NEW BUSINESS (continued)

d. Board Member Terms (in relation to new FY)

Changing FOTR Fiscal year changes the annual meeting date, so the board term will be longer as the Annual Meeting will be in March 2017. No annual meeting in 2015, but there will be one in 2016

e. Explore the Rouge

Maybury State Park hike Saturday January 17, 2015

f. Reorganization investigation with ARC

Received ERB Family foundation monies to explore FOTR/ARC partnership development. The Johnson Center is facilitating the negotiations and guidelines

The Board agrees that the Executive Committee or subcommittee should attend the meetings and report back to the Board

g. Board training

There is Board Training in Lansing February 25, 2015. The cost is \$60 per member and \$30 per additional member. The Executive Committee and Board members are encouraged to attend.

h. Additional issues from the floor

i. Sign thank you letters/individual updates

8) ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by ST, second by MM, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson

FOTR Secretary

JANUARY 14, 2015

FOTR Officer Nominations/Election

Nomination accepted: (A)

Nomination declined: (D)

President

Michael Darga: (A)

Adam Cloutier (D)

Steve Weiss (D)

Michael Darga accepted the nomination and elected President by acclamation

Vice-President

Alice Bailey: (A)

William Stone: (A)

Adam Cloutier: (A)

Michael Darga: (D)

Susan Thompson: (D)

Election results: Alice Bailey elected Vice-President

Secretary

Brandy Siedlaczek: (D)

SusanThompson: (A)

Keith Armitage: (D)

Susan Thompson accepted the nomination and elected Secretary by acclamation

Treasurer

Andrew Hoffman: (A)

Dave Norwood: (D)

Andrew Hoffman accepted the nomination and elected Treasurer by acclamation