

**Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**February 10, 2016**  
**U of M Environmental Interpretive Center**  
**Dearborn, MI 48128**

**Directors Present:** Keith Armitage (KA), Alice Bailey (AB), Mike Darga (MD), Andrew Hoffman (AH) via conference call, Mike McNulty (MM), Dave Norwood (DN), William Stone (WS), Susan Thompson (ST), Steve Weis (SW)  
(9 total)

**Directors Excused:** Adam Cloutier (AC), Heather Esper (HE), Chester Marvin (CM), Carla Rigsby (CR2), Brandy Siedlaczek (BS) (5 total)

**Directors Absent:** none (0 total)

**Staff Members Present:** Aimee LaLonde-Norman (ALN) (1 total)

1) CALL TO ORDER – President Michael Darga called the meeting to order at 5:11 pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by DN, second by MM, motion carried.

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. Minutes January 13, 2016

Motion to approve minutes made by DN, second by SW, motion carried

4) Finance Committee/Treasurer

i. December 2015

Financial condition of organization and Finance Committee meeting discussed

Motion to approve December 2015 report made by AH, seconded by DN, motion carried.

5) NEW BUSINESS

a. Annual *Conflicts of Interest* review

Conflicts of Interest of board members reviewed and shared

b. 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Logo drafts available for board to view/select most popular design and colors

c. Board training

d. Additional issues from the floor

SW is drafting a letter to Wayne County Executive Warren Evans about Wayne County Parks and developing relationships with FOTR, and to introduce the concept of a the County creating a naturalist position to oversee natural areas

Request from City of Novi to FOTR to provide a staffed display at Rouge Rescue in Rotary Park on May 21, 2016. Let ALN know if there is interest in helping out

e. Sign thank you letters

6) CLOSED SESSION

Motion to enter closed session made by SW, seconded by MM. Motion carried

a FOTR/ARC Merger

Merger vote discussed. The Board will vote by an e-mail ballot

6) CLOSED SESSION (continued)

The board will vote via e-mail on the following motions:

Motion to approve taking ARC/FOTR merger to the FOTR membership vote made by MM, seconded by ST. Motion carried.

2. Motion to recommend the ARC/FOTR merger approval to the FOTR membership made by DN, seconded by MM. Motion carried

b. Membership Committee

i. Annual Meeting

Discussion of order of business and merger presentation

ii. Board Election

The consensus was to continue the Board into this year. This issue will also be voted upon by the Board via e-mail vote

iii. Best Friend of the Rouge

ALN will send out an e-mail asking for recommendations for BFOTR nominations

Motion to end closed session made by DN, seconded by WS. Motion carried

7) ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson  
FOTR Secretary

*Reports attached for review*

*1. Executive Director*

*a. Rouge Education Project (REP)*

*b. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)*

*2. Membership*

*3. Fund Development Committee*