

Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2017
U of M Environmental Interpretive Center
Dearborn, MI 48128

Directors Present: Keith Armitage (KA), Alice Bailey (AB), Mike Darga (MD), Dr. Orin Gelderloos (OG), Andrew Hoffman (AH) {on conference call}, Al VanKerckhove (AVK), Zachary Lovall (ZL), Emily Lowery (EL), Scot Martin (SM), Chester Marvin (CM), Dave Norwood (DN), Brandy Siediaczek (BS) {on conference call}, Susan Thompson (ST), Laura Wagner (LW) (9 total)

Directors Excused: None

Directors Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Erin Cassady (EC), Marie McCormick (MMC), Karen Hannah (KH), Cyndi Ross (CR), Sally Petrella (SP) (5 total)

1) CALL TO ORDER

President MD called the meeting to order at 5:08pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda made by DM, seconded by CM. Motion carried

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. Minutes from January 11, 2017. Motion to approve made by CM, seconded by KA. Motion carried

4) REPORTS (also refer to reports in Board packet)

a. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has not met yet, but will begin to do so

b. Executive Director

Refer to written report for updates

c. Rouge Education Project (REP)

Working on recruiting 3-4 new schools

d. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)

The date for 2017 Rouge Rescue is set for May 20, 2017

Planning on Rouge Rescue 2017 and the kick off meeting is March 7

LUSH Grant is funding the Frog and Toad Survey workshops

Receiving \$5000 for continuing fish surveys

Four different types of stoneflies found during winter stonefly search

e. Membership Update/Committee

f. Fund Development Committee

Meeting immediately after the February Board meeting

g. Finance Committee/Treasurer

i. December 2016

Motion to approve November 2016 financial report made by KA, seconded by CM. Motion carried
The Finance Committee is planning to meet later this month
2016 Audit starting soon

5) NEW BUSINESS

a. *Annual Conflicts of Interest* review

Board reminded to complete forms

b. Committee Assignments

Current committee sign up list distributed. Board members are required to serve on two committees.
Communicate committee preferences to KH

c. FOTR/ARC Merger Next Steps

Executive Director MMC meeting with ARC representatives next week to get up to speed on merger

d. Board training/short presentation by Marie McCormick

10 Basic responsibilities of Non-Profit Boards presentation

Board members are encouraged to suggest webinars, items of interest pertaining to board development
Goal is to have a brief board development topic each board meeting

e. Additional issues from the floor

Introduction of Anne Naszradi (AN)

Motion to appoint AN to the Board of Directors made by ST, seconded by DN. Motion carried.

The appointment is through the next Board election

The Annual Meeting is March 22 at the Northville Public Library and Social at the Northville Winery and
Brewery post meeting. Registration is available online

Details forthcoming on candidates for 2017 Best Friends of the Rouge awards. KH will send out the
information and an voting will be via e-mail

Continuity/succession planning for FOTR staff is being looked at

h. Sign thank you notes

Board members signing thank you notes

7) ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by ST, seconded by KA. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson
FOTR Secretary