

**Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**June 8, 2016**  
**U of M Environmental Interpretive Center**  
**Dearborn, MI 48128**

**Directors Present:** Keith Armitage (KA), Alice Bailey (AB), Adam Cloutier (AC), Mike Darga (MD), Heather Esper (HE), Chester Marvin (CM), Dave Norwood (DN), Brandy Siedlaczek (BS), Susan Thompson (ST), Steve Weis (SW)  
(10 total)

**Directors Excused:** Mike McNulty (MM), Carla VanKampen (CVK), William Stone (WS), (3 total)

**Directors Absent:** Andrew Hoffman (AH), (1 total)

**Staff Members Present:** Sally Petrella (SP), Cyndi Ross (CR), Karen Hannah (KH), Erin Cassady (4 total)

1) CALL TO ORDER – Vice-President Alice Bailey called the meeting to order at 5:20 pm  
(President Michael Darga joined the meeting in progress)

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as amended made by DN, second by ST, motion carried.

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. Minutes May 11, 2016

Motion to approve minutes made by BS, second by AC, motion carried

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

a..Rouge Education Project (REP)

Leading an educational workshop on June 22, 2016

b. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)

The last Rouge Rescue event was last week. The wrap up meeting was yesterday. May do a fall invasive species removal event. Went on a canoe trip today on the Main Rouge with the local media and other stakeholders.

There is a Rouge Water Trail meeting next week Thursday at 1:30pm

There is a workday scheduled for Sunday at Goudy Park, 10:00am

c. Membership Update/Committee

No recent meetings. 296 members to date, up 4 members from last report

d. Fund Development Committee

Brew Cruise/major gifts planning next Monday

50 registrations for the cruise next week, down from last year's event, promoting on other websites

ECT and ITC are sponsoring for \$2500 each

Inland Pipe is sponsoring for \$1000 (no confirmation yet)

Update on Free Press Marathon partner activities- one team created and individual runners. Runner and volunteer recruitment is ongoing. The events are October 15-16, 2016.

e. Finance Committee/Treasurer

i. April 2016

Expenses are consistent and revenue varies with grant reimbursements

Motion to approve April 2016 report made by AC, seconded by SW, motion carried.

## 5) NEW BUSINESS

### a. Staff Issues/Concerns

### b. Rouge Rescue

Franco Group provided coverage for FOTR and increased media coverage which will be beneficial for member/corporate support

Board and staff reported on individual Rouge Rescue sites/activities

### c. Board training

### d. Additional issues from the floor

August 26, 2016- Save the Date for the Volunteer Recognition Picnic at Ford Field in Dearborn beginning at 4:00pm. Canoeing on the Lower Rouge will be available as part of the celebration.

Healing Our Waters Coalition membership discussed. The information on the organization will be forwarded to the Board for consideration/

### e. Sign thank you letters

### f. FOTR/ARC Merger Next Steps

No news about the merger. ERB is going to cover the cost of the recruiter

Two recruiter resumes were received, one disqualified based on scale of salary. One person is in the salary range. A two-month timeframe to get the recruiter on board

### g. Executive Director Search

See item f above

## 7) ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by AC, second by KA, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson

FOTR Secretary