Directors Present: Mike Darga (MD), Alice Bailey (AB), Orin Gelderloos (OG), Zachary Lovall (ZL), Emily Lowery (EL), Scot Martin (SM), Chester Marvin (CM), Anne Naszradi (AN), Dave Norwood (DN), Brandy Siediaczek (BS), Susan Thompson (ST), Al VanKerckhove (AVK), Laura Wagner (LW) (13 total)

On Conference call: Andrew Hoffman (AH) (1 total)

Directors Excused: None (0 total)

Directors Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Marie McCormick (MMC), Karen Hannah (KH), Erin Cassady (EC), (3 total)

Guests: Paco Ollervides (River Network), Randall Ross (Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan)

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

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion to approve agenda made by CM, seconded by AN. Motion carried

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES
a. Minutes from June 17, 2017. Motion to approve made by AN, seconded by CM. Motion carried

4) COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN (CFSEM) ENDOWMENT FUND
Randall Ross presented information about endowment funds. Endowment funds are permanent. There is expert oversight of the funds. Online giving, gift acceptance, and planned giving are available. There is a 0.5% administration fee annually and a growth target of 6-8%. The Board discussed the advantages and disadvantages of an endowment.
Motion to establish a $100,000 endowment with CFSEM made by ST, seconded by LW. Motion carried.

5) REPORTS (also refer to reports in Board packet)
a. Executive Committee
The Executive Committee (EC) is scheduled to hold calls on a monthly basis
The EC conference call was July 19- updates on items discussed later in tonight’s meeting agenda

b. Executive Director
Refer to report highlights

c. Rouge Education Project (REP)

d. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)

e. Membership Committee

f. Fund Development Committee
The Fund Development Committee meeting is after tonight’s board meeting
The Rouge Cruise was the best cruise ever. It was sold out!
g. Finance Committee/Treasurer
   i. May and June 2017
   Motion to approve May and June 2017 financial report made by CM, seconded by AN. Motion carried.

6) NEW BUSINESS
   a. Board Retreat Location
      Retreat planned for the Howell Nature Center September 21, 2017
      A catered dinner is planned and no staff is going to be present except for MMC.
      i. “Task Force” AN is volunteering to help the Executive Committee plan the event

   b. FOTR-ARC Merger Next Steps
      Options: FOTR merge into ARC or vice-versa. Options that do not solve anything are off the table.
      A Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) is a model to consider. There are frustrations voiced with the merger
      concerns raised by the ARC. There is a meeting scheduled at the end of the month to view the “big picture” of
      what joint operations would look like.

   c. Clean Water Act Repeal
      Discussion of FOTR joining a list of organizations opposing the repeal of a portion of the Clean Water Act
      referring to the “Waters of the State” definition. Healing Our Waters is sponsoring this petition. Item is tabled
      until more information on the issue and how it impacts FOTR’s mission is obtained

   d. Additional Issues from the Floor
      CM announced that this is his last meeting as a FOTR board member
      EL is going to be moving out of the area soon and moving to California
      MMC is expecting a baby boy and is due in January 2018

7) CLOSED SESSION
   Motion to enter/exit closed session made by CM, seconded by AVK. Motion carried.
   Budget amendments discussed

8) ADJOURNMENT
   Motion to adjourn made by ST, seconded by AN. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson
FOTR Secretary

Thank you to Laura Wagner for beginning the meeting minutes