

**Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**November 9, 2016**  
**U of M Environmental Interpretive Center**  
**Dearborn, MI 48128**

**Directors Present:** Keith Armitage (KA), Alice Bailey (AB), Adam Cloutier (AC), Heather Esper (HE), Andrew Hoffman (AH) {call-in}, Chester Marvin (CM), Dave Norwood (DN), Brandy Siediaczek (BS), Susan Thompson (ST), (9 total)

**Directors Excused:** Mike Darga (MD), Mike McNulty (MM), Steve Weis (SW) William Stone (WS) (4 total)

**Directors Absent:** Carla VanKampen (CVK)

**Staff Members Present:** Karen Hannah (KH) {call-in}, Erin Cassaday (EC), Cyndi Ross (CR1) (3 total)

1) CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President AB called the meeting to order at 5:18pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda made by ST, seconded by DN. Motion carried

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. Minutes from October 12, 2016. Motion to approve made by HE, seconded by BS. Motion carried

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

a. Rouge Education Project (REP)

Fall recap sent out to teachers

November 29 is the new teacher orientation

Submitted new grant applications

No new LUSH funding for REP; scheduling a call with funders that are still interested in funding

Received grant from Michigan Association of Environmental Professionals (MAEP) for this year

b. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)

Merriman Hollow workday October 22

Rouge Rescue report is completed and copies distributed to the board

Conference call about marketing strategy for Green Infrastructure project

Received an upgrade for a better trailer. Shelves are built and will get logo graphics on the sides

Sally Petrella and ST attended the MiCorps Volunteering Monitoring Conference in Tustin, MI

c. Membership Update/Committee

d. Fund Development Committee

Next meeting is right after the board meeting

Free Press Marathon charity partner raised \$4736. Positive feedback from participants and may consider participating in the event again next year

“Letter from the River” version 3 is ready for mailing

e. Finance Committee/Treasurer

i. September 2016

Motion to approve September 2016 financial report made by AH, seconded by AC. Motion carried

ii. 2017 budget

Motion to approve budget made by AC, seconded by KA. Motion carried

5) NEW BUSINESS

a. Board Election

Board meeting/Election is December 14, 2016 at the Livonia Public Library Civic Center Branch

i. Ballot finalization

Draft ballot distributed

Four board members agreed to run and a total of eleven board seats are vacant

Board members are encouraged to recruit potential candidates

b. Staff Issues/Concerns

Staff person is needed for the Non-Point source grant work. A proposal to fill the position was submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration

c. FOTR/ARC Merger Next Steps

d. Executive Director Search

Four candidates going through the second round of interviewing with the Executive Committee and the recruiter. Two ARC representatives were invited to sit in on the second round interviews.

e. Discussion

i. FOTR website accessibility

Review of website pages to for accessibility is ongoing

f. Board training

Webinars and Ford Foundation meetings

g. Additional issues from the floor

h. Sign thank you notes

7) ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson  
FOTR Secretary