

Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2018
U of M Environmental Interpretive Center
Dearborn, MI 48128

Directors Present: Alice Bailey (AB), Mike Darga (MD), Orin Gelderloos (OG), Scot Martin (SM), Elizabeth Palazzola (EP), Brandy Siediaczek (BS), Susan Thompson (ST), Al VanKerckhove (AVK), Laura Wagner (LW) (10 total)

On Conference call: Manja Holland (MH) (1 total)

Directors Excused: Andrew Hoffman (AH), John Kelly (JK), Zachary Lovall (ZL), Mike McNulty (MM) (4 total)

Directors Absent: Dave Norwood (DN) (1 total)

Staff Members Present: Karen Hannah (KH), Sally Petrella (SP), Cyndi Ross (CR) (3 total)

Guests: None

1) CALL TO ORDER

President MD called the meeting to order at 5:14pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3) WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

a. Open Q and A, Board and staff introductions

4) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. December 13, 2017

Motion to approve, with formatting adjustments, made by BS seconded by AB. Motion carried

5) BOARD OFFICER ELECTIONS

Nominations and election results attached

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

a. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (EC) is scheduled to hold calls on a monthly basis

On the conference last call last week, operations and new space build out were items discussed.

b. Executive Director

Refer to reports attached for highlights

c. Rouge Education Project (REP)

Refer to reports attached for highlights

d. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)
Refer to reports attached for additional highlights
Rain Gardens to the Rescue work ongoing
Developed Memorandum of Understanding with Sierra Club
Rouge Rescue-Save the Date: Saturday May 19, 2018

Winter Stonefly Search has 47 people signed up
Frog and Toad Survey workshops scheduled
Raised \$11,000 for the benthic program

e. Membership Committee

f. Fund Development Committee
Rouge Cruise date is set for Tuesday August 7, and the Free Press running events registration open for 2018.
Fourteen runners registered as of December 2017.

g. Finance Committee/Treasurer
i. November 2017

Received two grants- Rain Gardens to the Rescue and Rouge River Water Trail. Audit is going to get started

7) NEW BUSINESS

a. Board Retreat Update and follow up
The Retreat was September 21, 2017 at the Howell Nature Center
Concluded Mission, Core Values, Vision and Mission Statements. Approved final language will be distributed

b. Annual "Conflicts of Interest"
Conflict of Interest forms due to KH

c. Committee Assignments
Committee sign up list distributed

d. FOTR Policy Manual
The Policy manual is in the process of updates. The most recent was the Procurement Policy and Billing Rate Policy.

e. Office Space/Relocation
Pursuing the PARC space for the new FOTR office. Reviewed space situation with board members

f. Crowdrise Campaign (Newman's Own Charity Challenge)
\$2600 unrestricted funds so far

g. Benthic Program Crowdrise
\$2853 raised to date

h. Board Training
More board training topics at future board meetings

i. Additional issues from the floor
Check on American Public Works 50/50 raffle
Tim Faas is doing a fundraiser for FOTR
The FOTR Annual Meeting is March 14, 2018
Executive Director Marie McCormick has a new addition to the family- baby Scott Wheeler McCormick born last week

j. Sign Thank You notes

8) ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by BS, seconded by ST. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:17pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson FOTR Secretary

ATTACHMENT
JANUARY 10, 2018
FOTR Officer Nominations/Elections

Nomination accepted: (A)
Nomination declined: (D)

President

Michael Darga: (A)
Alice Bailey (D)

Michael Darga accepted the nomination and elected President by acclamation

Vice-President

Alice Bailey: (A)
Laura Wagner (A)
Susan Thompson: (D)
Brandy Siedlaczek (D)

Election results: Alice Bailey elected as Vice-President

Secretary

SusanThompson: (A)
Brandy Siedlaczek: (D)

Susan Thompson accepted the nomination and elected Secretary by acclamation

Treasurer

Andrew Hoffman: (A)*

Andrew Hoffman accepted the nomination and elected Treasurer by acclamation

* Notified officers before meeting of nomination acceptance

Board Member at Large

Alice Bailey (A)
Laura Wagner (A)

Election results: Laura Wagner elected as Board Member at Large