

Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2018
Dearborn Hills Country Club
Dearborn, MI 48128

Directors Present: Alice Bailey (AB), Mike Darga (MD), Orin Gelderloos (OG), John Kelly (JK), Scot Martin (SM), Mike McNulty (MM), Dave Norwood (DN), Elizabeth Palazzola (EP), Brandy Siediaczek (BS), Susan Thompson (ST), Laura Wagner (LW) (11 total)

On Conference call:

Directors Excused: Andrew Hoffman (AH), Manja Holland (MH), Zachary Lovall (ZL), Al VanKerckhove (AVK) (4 total)

Directors Absent: (0 total)

Staff Members Present: Marie McCormick (MMC), Matthew Bertrand (MB), Sally Petrella (SP), Erin Cassidy (EC) (4 total)

Guests: None

1) CALL TO ORDER

President MD called the meeting to order at 5:19pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3) WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Board and staff introductions

4) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. January 10, 2018

Motion to approve made by BS 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

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 highlights

e. Membership Committee

Refer to reports attached for highlights

f. Fund Development Committee

Refer to reports attached for highlights

g. Finance Committee/Treasurer

i. December 2017

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by DN, seconded by ST. Motion carried.

6) NEW BUSINESS

a. Annual "Conflicts of Interest"

Conflict of Interest forms due to KH if not already submitted

b. Rouge River Water Trail Committee Creation

Formalize Rouge River Water Trail Committee to better formalize agreements; will be the eighth FOTR committee. Questions: Who should chair? Where should the committee meet? The group should designate a chair and report back to the FOTR board. The committee began meeting in 2012. Motion to adopt the FOTR Water Trail committee made by LW, seconded by OGG. Motion carried.

c. Committee Assignments

Committee sign up list distributed. Persons are needed for the Board Development committee

d. Organizational Assessment/Strategic Plan RFP

Searching for a consultant to do organizational assessment/strategic plan-motion to accept bids made by EP, seconded by LW. Motion carried.

e. PARC Office Relocation

i. Lease Update

Board member JK reviewed. Recommend review before meeting with PARC March 27, 2018 to ensure that improvements PARC promises are in lease (windows, etc.)

ii. Contractor Discussion

3 bids received and discussed. Shaw Contracting is offering a "friends and family" discount on the bid. Motion to approve a bid to Shaw/Interior Environments at a maximum of \$125,000 and to give MD and MMC authorization to work on lowering bid to get the work performed as cost effectively as possible made by DN, seconded by SM. Motion carried.

iii. Capital Campaign

Campaign plan: will not go public with campaign plan until lease with PARC is signed.
Open to sponsor naming rights for parts of office

f. Provision of Outside Services

Provision of outside services to ARC/non-ARC communities discussed. The goal is to provide services in FOTR's area of expertise. Goal is to model FOTR after Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC), Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC).

g. Wayne County Park Property Sales

Wayne County has Phoenix Yard, Wilcox Mill, Wilcox Mill, and Inkster Golf Course. There may be deed restrictions associated with these properties and the Wayne County Commission was not aware that the County Executive placed the properties up for sale. FOTR is not taking any position on the sales as of yet.

h. Northville Downs; "daylighting" the Rouge

Northville Downs is being sold to a private developer. There is a lot of interest in the redevelopment and FOTR involvement would be a positive. JK has reached out to developer about daylighting and public access.

i. Board Training

j. Additional issues from the floor

FOTR Parental Leave policy- Board review and e-vote

FOTR Fund Development Committee meeting is tomorrow at 5:00pm

k. Sign Thank You notes

8) ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson FOTR Secretary