Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2018
Environmental Interpretive Center (EIC)
Dearborn, MI 48128

Directors Present: Alice Bailey (AB), Mike Darga (MD), Orin Gelderloos (OG), John Kelly (JK), Dave Norwood (DN), Elizabeth Palazzola (EP), Brandy Siediaczek (BS), Susan Thompson (ST), Laura Wagner (LW) (9 total)

On Conference call: Mike McNulty (MM) (1 total)

Directors Excused: Manja Holland (MH), Scot Martin (SM), Al VanKerckhove (AVK), (4 total)

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

Staff Members Present: Karen Hannah (KH), Marie McCormick (MMC), Cyndi Ross (CR), Sally Petrella (SP) (4 total)

Guests: None

1) CALL TO ORDER
President MD called the meeting to order at 5:15pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion to approve agenda made by ST, seconded by DN. Motion carried

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES
a. May 9, 2018
Motion to approve made by LW seconded by BS. Motion carried.

4) BOARD VACANCY
a. Introduction of Paul Draus (not present)
b. Filling of Board Position
Motion to appoint Paul Draus to the vacant Board of Directors position thought the next election made by DN, 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 met last week. All items discussed are on tonight’s meeting agenda.

b. Executive Director
Refer to reports attached for highlights
FOTR Facebook is over 10,000 “Likes”

c. Rouge Education Project (REP)
Refer to reports attached for highlights

d. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)
Refer to reports attached for highlights
Rouge Rescue on May 19 a success; thanks to all who participated
e. Membership Committee
Refer to reports attached for highlights

f. Fund Development Committee
Refer to reports attached for highlights
Fund Development is meeting after the board meeting’s conclusion
Need assistance on getting sponsors for Cruise, Capital Campaign

g. Finance Committee/Treasurer
i. April 2018
Motion to approve Treasurer’s report made by ST, seconded by BS. Motion carried.
Raise One for the Rouge netted about $900

6) NEW BUSINESS
a. Organizational Assessment/Strategic Plan RFP
Received eight proposals- Parallel Solutions out of Traverse City is recommended. RFP includes review of employee policies, and program analysis. Motion to approve made by LW, seconded by ST. Motion carried.

b. EIC/PARC Office Relocation
i. Construction Update
FOTR staff is housed in the EIC bird banding room temporarily
The carpet and tile is installed in the PARC office space
Walls are going to be ordered, final drawings shifted office space around a bit
ii. Capital Campaign
MMC needs assistance with Capital Campaign
Ask one person or organization for support by the end of next week

c. REP Funding
Only 1 full time staff person; some funders are not coming through as in the past about $60,000 short.
LW will check on funding opportunities through Ford Foundation; MM will check into ITC’s programs

d. FOTR Van/Vehicle Replacement
LW is reaching out to Ford. MMC is developing a “wish list” for posting on the FOTR website

e. LTU Volunteer Fair
This is coming up in August. Need staffing for table. Calls to board members to assist; contact MMC if interested in supporting

f. 3D Model Map- “Sharing” Policy
The Rouge 3D Model is very popular, as is the map and there are requests for copies. Some of the data was from the public domain; free sites, but there was a lot of refining with specific data such as “ghost” streams, watershed geology. Recommend copies of map be distributed with FOTR logo, partnerships involved in creating the map

g. Earned Media Collaboration
Area watershed groups would hire a PR consultant to promote events, water trails as a whole, improving getting the message out. Maybe do an RFP or ERB Foundation funding

h. Board- Training

i. Additional Issues from the floor

j. Sign thank you notes
k. Privacy Policy
Motion to adopt made by AB, seconded by ST. Motion carried.

8) ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn made by MM, seconded by AB. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson
FOTR Secretary