

Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2018
PARC Offices
Plymouth, MI 48170

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

On Conference call: (0 total)

Directors Excused: Andrew Hoffman (AH), Scot Martin (SM), Mike McNulty (MM) (3 total)

Directors Absent: Paul Draus (PD), (1 total)

Staff Members Present: Karen Hannah (KH), Marie McCormick (MMC), Sally Petrella (SP), Erin Cassidy (EC), Matthew Bertram (MB), Cyndi Ross (CR), Jacklyn Heikkila (JH) (7 total)

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 LW. Motion carried

3) APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

a. September 12, 2018 (as amended)

Motion to approve made by ST seconded by BS. Motion carried .

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

a. Executive Committee

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

- i. Executive Director Annual Review (Scheduled 11/16)
- ii. Staff Compensation/budget

b. Executive Director

Refer to reports attached for highlights

Introduction of JH and welcome to Haley Wechter, PI intern

Facebook campaign received 11,000 “likes”

c. Rouge Education Project (REP)

Refer to reports attached for highlights

d. River Restoration/Volunteer Monitoring (PI)

Refer to reports attached for highlights

e. Membership Committee

Refer to reports attached for highlights

f. Board Development Committee

Six candidates recruited for five board seats for December election

g. Water Trail Committee
Inkster is interested in a canoe launch downtown

h. Fund Development Committee
Refer to reports attached for highlights
Scheduling a Fund Development meeting soon
i. Capital campaign update

i. Finance Committee/Treasurer
i. July- September 2018
Motion to approve Treasurer's reports made by JK, seconded by BS. Motion carried.
ii. Budget
Budget a work in progress

5) NEW BUSINESS

a. Organizational Assessment/Strategic Plan Update
Presentation/update was made to board; a second staff workshop was held last week; evaluation of programs discussed

b. Policy Updates/Approvals
i. Office Aesthetic Guidelines
Motion to adopt Office Aesthetic Guidelines made by DN, seconded by LW. Motion carried.
ii. Secure Office Policy
Motion to adopt Secure Office Policy made by DN, seconded by LW. Motion carried
iii. Terms and Conditions "policy"
Motion to approve Secure Office Policy made by EP, seconded by LW. Motion carried.
iv. Fiscal Policy
Motion to approve Fiscal Policy made by ST, seconded by AVK. Motion carried.
v. Cost Allocation Policy
Motion to adopt Cost Allocation Policy made by BS, seconded by ST. Motion carried.

c. ARC- "Next Steps"
Did not obtain Executive Services contract with ARC
ARC is interested in partially funding benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring program
Working on ARC PIE work for FOTR, could subcontract with ECT for the ARC

d. Rouge Book updates
Rouge River textbook- MSU and U-M presses are interested and in writing samples for publishing.
FOTR's role in the book development discussed

e. Wayne County Property Sales (Village Industry Mills)
Sales of Village Industry Mills discussed. LW will check into property ownership and FOTR will send letters regarding sale to Wayne County administration and Commission

f. Earned Media with HRWC
Grant to feature stories on activities- two stories a month per year
Interview with Jack Lessenberry scheduled on 910AM on December 7, 2018

g. Heavner Canoe Concession@Newburgh Lake
Potential of subcontracting with Heavner for canoe/concession at Newburgh Lake discussed.
A feasibility study would be needed. No support to move forward on item expressed

h. PFAS

MDEQ is monitoring for PFAS/PFOAS in the Rouge River in 2019

FOTR plans to post educational pieces on the PFAS and coal tar sealants on website/social media in future

6. Closed Session (by invitation only)

a. *Jerry Ring, Ph.D Candidate Presentation* Watershed Initiative Partnerships research

b. PARC Update

PARC millage failed. PARC held private tenant meeting with tenants after election to discuss future plans

c. Northville Downs

Landscape site review with Grissim Metz/King & MacGregor

Presentation about Northville Downs development plan- discussion and Q and A followed

Questions regarding the development should be forwarded to MMC

Drafting Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) discussed. JK and MMC would draft MOU

7. New Business (continued)

a. Additional issues from the floor

b. Sign thank you notes

8) ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by JK, seconded by EP. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Thompson

FOTR Secretary