

# Friends of Hartman Reserve



Our mission is to support Hartman Reserve and its service to our communities through volunteerism, expertise, advocacy, and gifts.

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## **Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date:** January 11, 2022

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Location:** Hartman Reserve Nature Center, with the option of attending virtually through Zoom

**Board Members in Attendance:** Tom Blanford, Dwight Fritts, Nate Goetsch, Kathy Green, Joel Haack, Nina Hamer, Kolby Kestel, Emma Krgo, Laura Walter, Jim Young

**Absent:** Theresa Johnson, Diane Holmes, Bridgett Wood, Kendra Wohlert, Gretchen Ogden

**Also in Attendance:** Amy Davison, Hartman Reserve Unit Manager

- I. Call to Order – Jim Young at 5:32 pm
- II. Review and Approval of Agenda - Nate Goetsch moved, Nina Hamer seconded, motion carried
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes of **11/09/21 and 12/14/21** meetings - *sent via email in advance of meeting*
  - A. No additions or corrections to November 9 minutes. Kathy Green moved, Nina Hamer seconded, motion carried
  - B. No additions or corrections to December 14 minutes. Kathy Green moved, Dwight Fritts seconded, motion carried
- IV. Review and File Financial Statement for Audit – Kathy Green – *sent via email in advance of meeting*
  - A. Checking has about \$17,000
  - B. Money market at \$15,000
  - C. Endowment balance is \$1,251,000
  - D. Used all but \$500 of allowable expenditure in 2021

- E. Have \$42,600 to spend in 2022. \$23,000 of that will be written this month to BHCCB for our pledged amount for the budget, leaving about \$20,000 to use throughout the calendar year
  - F. In past month \$300 from 2 donors into Endowment; \$1500 in donations to Friends
  - G. Reimbursements of \$100 to Theresa for Memory Cafe, \$164 to Nina for Winter Woodland refreshments
  - H. Kathy sent a mid-year report to show income/expenditures relative to Finance Committee budget predictions
  - I. Reports are accepted and filed for audit
- V. Hartman Unit Manager, Amy Davison
- A. January report – *appended to agenda and below*
  - B. Website of MOTUS organization that Amy mentioned in report: <https://motus.org/>
  - C. Scientist in Residence is a potential new idea
  - D. Bricks for Birds have been engraved and will be installed in spring
  - E. Two new benches coming in spring, from specific donors
- VI. Committees
- A. Executive Committee-standing – Jim - no further information beyond tonight’s agenda
  - B. Finance Committee-standing – Kathy will email to set next meeting
  - C. Communication/Outreach –Dwight, Kolby, Nina-
    - 1. Set date for Communications and Ex. Committee to discuss purpose of social media and direction
    - 2. Tuesday, February 1 at 5:30 at Jim Young’s home unless another host steps up
    - 3. Anna updated website in December and will continue to post new minutes after each meeting
  - D. Friends merchandise update – Nina
    - 1. We may not need to keep this on the agenda, since the store is running and there are no decisions to make
  - E. Youth Board members – Emma and Kolby
    - 1. Meeting with Katy and Katie tomorrow, Wednesday, January 12
  - F. Accessibility initiatives -Diane, Theresa, and Joel
    - 1. Has not met since last board meeting
    - 2. Will meet next week
    - 3. Work on Memory Cafe continues, but canceled for January and February to protect vulnerable members
    - 4. Diane wrote tribute to Tyler Greene for next newsletter
    - 5. Amy is putting together a document with options and costs for accessible drinking fountains (water lines aren’t deep enough for freeze-proof fountain, however)
  - G. Inclusivity/Diversity Committee -

## VII. New Business

### A. Maple Syrup Fest sponsorship – Amount

1. Received letter requesting a sponsorship from Connie
2. Exec Committee is in favor but did not decide on an amount
  - a. In prior years, we have given \$500
  - b. Funds from sponsorships can be designated to Hartman
  - c. LW moves that we give \$500 for MSF with the stipulation that the funds are designated for Hartman Reserve. DF seconded, motion carried
  - d. If event has to be canceled due to Covid, would shift to a model similar to last year (private tours and tree tapping events)
3. Free tickets could be given away on Facebook (Connie did this last year)

### B. Projects – Wish list

1. Staff is working on list of priorities
2. Connie will create a list of sponsorship requests for the year to aid in our planning
3. Field trip sponsorship is high on the list and greatly appreciated by staff and teachers
  - a. We have covered for this school year (\$8,000)
  - b. This donation would be needed after the start of the next fiscal year
  - c. Amy can provide numbers of children who came on field trips
  - d. Board should decide if this is something we would like to do annually and budget for
4. Trail counters (currently have at Hartman station, top of sidewalk near parking) and would like to install more (Lakes trail)
  - a. June - 8000 people went past Hartman station counter, average 1200 people per week
  - b. Helps give data on trail usage when Hartman asks for support for trail maintenance and improvements
  - c. 1084 people per week pass the sidewalk counter
  - d. In October 10,323 people passed the sidewalk counter
  - e. Could be fun facts to put in the newsletter
5. Bulk mailing for summer camps, but may not be necessary

### C. Cedar Heights Neighborhood Reconstruction project – impact on Hartman

1. Amy has talked to Mike, and he will meet with the City Engineer to see how this construction will affect Hartman (especially water runoff and erosion in ravines)
2. Timing of road closures relative to field trip season is a concern (staff are considering various options such as taking the field trip

- programs to another location, talking to River Hills about bus parking)
3. Timber Rd closure would make it impossible to bring buses to Hartman
  4. Nina has participated in meetings of neighbors with City staff and Council representatives and advocated for the City to respect the nature of the Hartman neighborhood and to work with Hartman
- VIII. Adjourn - Nins Hamer moved, Nate Goetsch seconded, motion carried - meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm

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**What is happening now at Hartman?**

- We are in the process of researching and planning yearly events
- Iowa Games snowshoe race, February
- Schools' out day camps
- Getting ready for snowshoeing
- Installing shelving, and mouse-proof patio bins for lifejackets (supported by Friends)
- Green Iowa AmeriCorps will begin volunteering every other month to help complete various projects (Land and Water Stewards at CEEE)
- We will begin posting and looking for our Summer AmeriCorps positions (3, 400-hour positions).
- Attending the UNI Volunteer Fair on Jan. 26.
- Winterfest (annual Conservation conference Jan. 25-27) Katie and Katy will be speaking regarding our partnership with Inclusion Connection and efforts to create inclusive programming (sharing resources with other naturalists).
- Possibility of educational opossum (rehab animals)
- Possible partnership with Prairie Rapids Audubon Society and Motis tower (migration tracking, 1200 motis towers around world) for wildlife tracking (working to gain Bird Friendly County designation)

**Up-coming programs:**

- Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday Speaker: Yoga, what is it and can I do it?
- Jan 9<sup>th</sup> Aya Dancing
- Jan 14<sup>th</sup> Snow academy Full day
- Jan 16<sup>th</sup> Sound bathing
- Jan 23 Laughter Yoga
- Jan 30 Yoga and winter forest bathing
- Feb 3. Nesting naturalist
- Feb 11 Snow Academy full day

- Feb. 12 Iowa snowshoe games
- Feb 13 Aya Dancing
- March 3 Nesting naturalist
- March 5/6<sup>th</sup> Hunter Education
- March 11-13 MAPLE SYRUP FEST
- March 20<sup>th</sup> Vernal Equinox yoga
- March 27 Laughter Yoga.

**Project Updates:**

The fire bowl arrived and will be placed in the spring, and we are still waiting for the last memorial bench to come in. The nest will be installed in the spring, and I am working with the instructors for the shop classes at Waverly Shell Rock to see if they are still willing to build the next structure that we would like to put up in the Buckles area. There is an Eagle Scout working on moving the woodshed by the Buckles building so we can remove a couple dead trees for the Greenhouse. (This project has been postponed until spring.)