

Friends of Hartman Reserve



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

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Date: March 8, 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, Joel Haack, Kathy Green, Nina Hamer, Diane Holmes, Emma Krgo, Laura Walter, Jim Young

Absent: Theresa Johnson, Gretchen Ogden, Bridgett Wood, Kolby Kestel,

Also in Attendance: Amy Davison, Hartman Reserve Unit Manager

- I. Meeting was called to order by President Jim Young at 5:35 pm
- II. Review and Approval of Agenda – Nate Goetsch moved; Dwight Fritts seconded; motion carried.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes of 2-8-2022 meeting (sent prior to meeting via email)
 - A. No additions or corrections
 - B. Kathy Green moved to approve the minutes; Nina Hamer seconded; motion carried.
- IV. Unanimous vote of the voting members of the Board, via email between regularly scheduled meetings, approved setting up a PayPal account for donations (recorded here for the Minutes).
- V. Review and File Financial Statement for Audit – Kathy Green (sent prior to meeting via email)
 - A. Little financial activity in the past month, though a few donations came in
 - B. Finance committee did not meet since the past meeting
 - C. Endowment fund is down somewhat due to current economic conditions

- D. Annual appeal letter includes \$2 million goal for growing the Endowment
- VI. Hartman Unit Manager, Amy Davison
 - A. March report sent to Board via email prior to meeting
 - B. Trees are tapped, but sap has not been running due to the recent cold; only have 60 tickets left for Maple Syrup Festival
 - C. Have located a taxidermist to prepare specimens that have been in freezer (fawn, bobcat, long-eared owl, beaver)
 - D. Spring break camps coming up – able to travel this year
 - E. John Deere volunteers coming to build platform for greenhouse
 - F. New volunteer has experience in greenhouse industry and will help set up for watering, soils, etc.
 - G. New treehouse deck sign will feature insects
 - H. Have plants ordered for little garden at top of hill and volunteers for planting
 - I. Newsletters are merging (Hartman Happenings and The Oak)
 - J. Amy sent photos of progress on playscape Sugar Shack being built by WSR students
- VII. Committees
 - A. Executive Committee – nothing to report other than what is already on the agenda
 - B. Finance Committee – Kathy (no further report)
 - C. Communication/Outreach – Dwight, Kolby, Nina
 - 1. PayPal/website – Tom has been working on getting a link embedded on our website; “donate” is now a tab on the main menu; website renewal paid for 2 years in March
 - 2. Appeal letters (Kathy) – about 50 extras available for Board members to give to friends who aren’t on the mailing list; total cost was \$450 for 500 envelopes with return address, box of small return envelopes, and 350 printed letters (color); about 300 will be mailed (50 to 50701, 30 out of town, remaining to 50613 and other Waterloo zip codes); costs about \$1.50 per letter including stamps; Tom will let Kathy know when PayPal link is ready so that the letters can be mailed
 - 3. Facebook – may need to create a Page rather than a Group to access needed functions such as providing PayPal link
 - 4. Need to recruit board members who would be interested in taking on the newsletter, Facebook page; Jim will email the Board to encourage recruiting friends with these skills; Laura will include recruiting appeal in the next newsletter
 - D. Youth Board members – Emma and Kolby – collaborating on two planned projects
 - 1. Greenhouse project – setting up interior elements of greenhouse, Emma taking lead

2. Opossum project – adding elements to his enclosure for enrichment, Kolby taking lead
 3. More information next month when Kolby is here
- E. Accessibility initiatives - Diane, Theresa, and Joel
1. Mudd has come over to review needs for Braille signage in the building
 2. Accessible drinking fountains – do not require electricity, are made of stainless steel (less vulnerable to vandalism), will be removed in winter
 3. March Memory Café had 8 or 9 attendees for maple syrup themed event
- F. Inclusivity/Diversity Committee - nothing to report at this time

VIII. New Business

A. Projects – Wish list updates (sent via email)

1. Discussion

- a) There may have been a misunderstanding about possible funding for the Motus tower from Prairie Rapids Audubon; the county is purchasing two other towers, but the Friends are being asked to fund the one at Hartman. (Motus towers track tagged migratory birds and insects.)
- b) Could reduce total amount of the request by delaying some projects (e.g., trail counters) or splitting them between years (e.g., one drinking fountain this year, one the next).
- c) Braille signage is an ADA requirement that should have been included when building was constructed and must be met; do not yet have an estimate; ballpark figure may be \$2,000; explore cost sharing with county once we know what the anticipated costs are.
- d) Visiting Artist program is ending after this summer, and no Friends funding needed for 2022, so sponsorships total would drop to \$2,000.
- e) Exec committee favors funding field trips (\$9,000), sponsorships of 5 events (\$2,000)
- f) Nina Hamer moves that funding 2022-23 field trips for \$9,000 be our first priority; Dwight Fritts seconded. Motion carried.

(1) Discussion

- (a) Amount the previous year was \$8,000.
- (b) Decisions on other projects could be delayed until we have more information.
- g) Nate Goetsch moves that the Friends fund one drinking fountain, with dog waterer, with a cap of \$3,500; Tom Blanford seconded. Motion carried.
- h) Joel Haack moves funding the Motus tower for \$3500; Laura Walter seconded. Motion carried.

(1) Discussion – this is coming from the remaining \$19,000 we can spend this year from the Endowment. We would like to have some money left over to fund other items that come up during the year.

- i) The Friends Board will put the rest of the decisions on hold until we have more information on some of the projects and have the results of the appeal letter.
- j) The check for payment of field trip sponsorship will be provided after July 1.

B. Cedar Heights Neighborhood Reconstruction project update:

- 1. First round will be West Ridgewood from Greenwood to Cherry. Each homeowner will get a personal call.
- 2. Mike has been in communication with the City regarding possible impacts to Hartman programming

C. Jim Young is storing wooden acorn plaques that Connie found in the cupboards; used to be given to J.C. Hartman award winners. Could give an award at our annual event. No other ideas suggested.

D. Visiting Artist program ending. Was originally a Friends program, and do the Friends want to take it over? Or Hearst Center? Taking over the program would involve more than funding. There are some other things happening in the community that combine art and conservation, such as Artist in Residence at Tallgrass Prairie Center last year. Could invite speakers (e.g., to Second Sunday Series) to present about their art.

IX. Motion to adjourn - Nina Hamer moved; Kathy Green seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:49.