



Friends of Hartman Reserve Board Meeting

October 12, 2021

5:30 pm

Location: Hartman Reserve Nature Center

Present: Jim Young, Kathy Green, Nina Hamer, Nate Goetsch, Theresa Johnson, Bridgett Wood, Gretchen Ogden, Emma Krgo, Kolby Kestel, Joel Haack (via Zoom), Laura Walter

Absent: Dwight Fritts, Kendra Wohlert, Diane Holmes, Tom Blanford

Also in attendance: Amy Davison, Hartman Reserve Director

- I. Call to Order – Jim Young – 5:35
- II. Review and Approval of Agenda – Nina Hamer moved, Nate Goetsch seconded, motion carried
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes of 9-14-2021 annual/general meeting – sent via email prior to meeting
 - A. Additions and corrections - Extra 0 in 45,000 needs to be corrected
 - B. Theresa Johnson moved, Bridgett Wood seconded, motion carried
- IV. Review and File Financial Statement for Audit – Kathy Green
 - A. Summary of bank account balances, donations, endowment (statements sent via email prior to meeting)
 - B. Received one \$1000 donation in September
 - C. Donor celebration cost \$900; attendance was 13 donors plus board members and HRNC staff
 - D. Theresa provides receipts for Memory Café expenses with average of \$75/event (Board approved \$900 for the year)
 - E. FoHR covered art supplies for Second Sunday event
- V. Hartman Unit Manager, Amy Davison, October report – *attached to agenda and appended below minutes*
 - A. Spooky Strolls are replacing Halloween Hikes (less staff time required, can serve large numbers of attendees)
- VI. Summary of BHCC /Hartman uses of the FY21 Friends lump sum payment – attached to agenda and appended below
 - A. Black Hawk County was not interested in funding the acoustic panels for the meeting room; Friends money allowed this important upgrade to the space to go forward
- VII. Committees
 - A. Executive Committee would like Board feedback on the Donor Celebration

1. About half of RSVPs actually attended; some may have stayed home due to concerns over the pandemic
 2. Had too much food, but mainly because we wanted to involve the culinary artist (and no-shows)
 3. Background music would be nice during social hour (2020 Visiting Artist was a flautist, could use her recording)
- B. Finance Committee-standing – Kathy
1. Committee recommends to the Board that we approve the \$23,000 request from Hartman Reserve for the FY2023 Black Hawk County Conservation budget
 2. Issues discussed by the committee prior to the board meeting included adding funds beyond the requested amount due to high endowment earnings this year, but the committee decided against this
 - i. Contributing more in a lump sum could limit our ability to respond to more immediate needs and ideas throughout the year.
 - ii. Did not want to set a precedent in case the Endowment does not perform as well in future years
 - iii. Allows Friends to directly sponsor specific projects aligned with our mission
 - iv. Friends support can accelerate some projects such as the accessible outdoor bathroom that would otherwise go through a lengthy budgeting and approval process
 3. We provided a total of \$90,000 in support to Hartman over the past year (inclusive of our annual pledge)
 4. Director of BHCC can include this pledge in defending their budget to the County Board of Supervisors
 5. Kathy Green moved that we approve the \$23,000 request from Hartman for the BHCC FY2023 budget; Gretchen Ogden seconded; motion carried
- C. Website update /Facebook group– updates –
1. Anna Blanford (sister of Tom; university student and employee at Veridian) is assisting Jim Young in updating the website <https://www.friendsofhartman.org>
 2. Friends of Hartman Reserve Group – Board members are encouraged to post to the Group and share events
- D. Friends merchandise update – Nina
1. Xpressions store is updated with winter items – stocking cap, scarf, packable jacket
 2. NH will post on the FB group about this
- E. Youth Board members – Welcome, Emma and Kolby!
- F. Accessibility initiatives - Diane, Theresa, and Joel
1. Meeting once a month, starting in September
 2. Working with Amy, Tyler, and Paul on next project suggested by the Inclusion Connection report
 - i. Accessibility of the ponds may be beyond the current engineering capacity of Hartman staff
 - ii. Inside signage accessibility (e.g. Braille)
 3. Accessible Trails webinar is coming up later this month (information shared via email)
- G. Inclusion Committee
1. Board reviewed the draft goal statement for inclusivity and diversity

"The Friends of Hartman Reserve, in partnership with Hartman Reserve Staff, will pursue opportunities to network and engage in conversation with individuals and organizations representing diverse populations in our communities to increase participation and access to Hartman's facilities, grounds, and programs. Bringing diverse voices and insight will contribute greatly to the Friends' Board and strengthen Hartman Reserve's impact and outreach into the community."

2. Discussion
 - i. No measurable goals included; simply a beginning
 - ii. Add "facilities, grounds, and" in addition to "programs" (underlined above)
 - iii. Hartman staff perspective on inclusion goals
 - a. Transportation to Hartman limits access (no bus stop or other safe way for children to come here, especially after school)
 - b. Community organizations (e.g., Boys and Girls Club) are very busy and have time and transportation limits
 - c. There isn't a county park in Waterloo; Hartman staff have considered bringing programming to City Parks, but still need safe transportation for students to be able to attend
 - d. YWCA brings children to HRNC in summer, but not feasible for after school programs; already have their own programming, and Hartman staff are concerned not to "step on toes" by bringing programming
3. Jim Young will be reaching out to Community Foundation BIPOC group
4. Kathy Green moved to approve the draft statement; Bridgett Wood seconded; motion carried

VIII. New Business

- A. Bylaws proposed addition with term limit statement –
 1. "The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, may consider the appointment of a new director after the Annual Meeting's election. Such appointment would consider the potential director's contributions to the Board of Directors and the needs of the Friends Board.
The term of office of a Director appointed after the Annual Meeting shall consist of the remainder of that year plus two additional years.
 2. Nate Goetsch moved to approve the changes with the additional statement about terms of office as presented; Nina Hamer seconded; motion carried
- B. Committee membership for 2021-22
 1. Executive – Jim, Nina, Kathy, and Laura
 2. Finance –Kathy, Gretchen, Tom, Nate, and Jim (Jeanne Miller)
 3. Youth Board member liaison – a member of the board who will help facilitate the relationship between the Youth and Hartman staff
 - i. Amy suggests a meeting with Hartman staff to talk about interests and potential projects (on Zoom, early November)
 - ii. Liaison will be chosen once the nature of the youth project is determined, to better match skills and interests
 4. Accessibility – Diane, Joel, and Theresa
 5. Inclusivity/Diversity – Kendra, Bridgett
- C. Inclusive Trails Webinar – Bridgett and Joel planning to attend and will report to the Board
- D. Outreach to schools about field trip opportunities

1. Jim has drafted a letter to school leadership which could be sent in an email to principals of elementary schools
 2. Nina has consulted with a contact in schools who says that Facebook is an effective way to share information with teachers
 3. Amy agrees that mass mailings are not very effective, compared to social media or emails
 4. The Friends want to make sure that the message about free field trips is getting out more broadly, not just to our existing contacts and those who already know
 5. Amy says that all available Fridays are now full, and the limitation is now staff time, teachers needing field trips to meet standards – and availability of bus drivers
 6. Staff would prefer that we put this on hold for now and promote it in spring
- E. Sponsorship of Under the Harvest Moon (UHM)
1. Last year FoHR donated \$500
 2. Discussion
 - i. Event will be in person at Hartman
 - ii. FoHR contribution helps underwrite the cost of the event (food, etc.)
 3. Theresa Johnson moved that we sponsor UHM at the \$500 level, Bridgett Wood seconded, motion carried
 4. Jim will email Connie about the Board's decision
 5. The Board would like this request to come about a month earlier next year, and Connie has said she could honor that
 6. If no member of the Board would like to claim the complimentary tickets, we could do a giveaway through the Facebook group
- F. Staff asks the Friends to support new Winter Wonderland event
1. Needed: volunteers and funding for cookies, hot chocolate toppings, and cider (option in case of allergies)
 2. Dates are Saturdays 12/4 and 12/11, 4-6pm
 3. Need several volunteers for each event, might need preparation and clean-up time, also a volunteer to purchase the food
 4. Need to know many people are expected; Hartman staff will soon determine if it will be a drop-in or preregistration event and will give us an estimated number soon.)
 5. Nina is researching options for purchasing cookies and frosting from Martin Bros, if we decide to provide cookie decorating as an activity. There will be other activities going on, so simply providing drinks, snacks, social space, and good cheer would be enough.
 6. Nina Hamer moved that we support this event and volunteer and be happy and jolly; Kathy Green seconded; motion carried
 7. Jim will email Board to get volunteers (Bridgett Wood suggests a Doodle Poll)

IX. FoHR received an opportunity to participate in a food related fundraising opportunity, raising the question: Do we want to do fundraising?

- A. Discussion
1. Impact on taxes
 2. Time invested selling vs. time invested seeking new donors

3. Is it important currently when we have a good stream of funds for the requests and ideas we have?
 4. We have finances now, and our energies are better spent in other activities
- B. Future fundraising ideas (GO)
1. We could solicit donations for specific projects in the future as an opportunity for community involvement
 2. Each Board member could write a personal letter to a set number of previous donors
- X. Other
- A. Kolby – suggests a Friends of Hartman Instagram to appeal to a younger audience
1. Could be connected to a Friends of Hartman Facebook page (different from the current FB Group)
 2. Would need frequent posts to stay relevant and current
- XI. Adjourn – Nina Hamer moved, Gretchen Ogden seconded, motion carried; meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm

Hartman Report - Amy

October 12, 2021

What is happening now at Hartman?

- West Wing exhibits are almost completed. Stream tank, signs for TSI part and Signs for Root going up soon.
- Cement for the old sugar shack area is being formed and will be poured soon. Benches have been ordered as well as the fire ring. Some of the cement work around the Buckles will be completed as well.
- New benches have been ordered and a new fire bowl as well that will go in the “Friendship Circle”.
- Bino bench (between the nest and bird walk) and mushroom stools have been ordered

- Under the Harvest Moon Oct. 29th

Up-coming programs:

- Oct 9 Halloween at Black Hawk Park
- Oct 9-10 Hunter Education
- Oct. 10th Second Sunday Forest Bathing
- Oct 10TH Healing through sound and vibration
- Oct 10th. 2nd Sunday speaker series Mindful Art
- Oct.13 – Nov. 17 Yoga in the park session 2
- Oct. 17 Sunday apple cidering
- Oct. 27 Spooky Stroll 5-6 and 6-7
- Oct. 28 Spooky Stroll 5-6 and 6-7
- Oct. 29 Under the Harvest Moon
- Nov. 12 Schools out day camp

- Nov. 14 yoga and forest bathing
 - Nov. 16 family fall hike
 - Nov.18 Nestling Naturalist.

Project Updates:

- Ranger Mike's house should be completed at the time of the meeting. Signs, maps, and décor are in the house. We will be adding mushroom seats once they are completed. We still need to add the ramp on the door
 - Old sugar shack cement should be completed at the time of the meeting.
 - Bird nest will be put on hold until Spring, we are running out of staff time.

Summary of Use of Friends of Hartman Reserve \$

Hartman

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Use of Friends of Hartman Reserve \$

Operating Expenses

Programming Supplies \$3,100.00

Capital Expenses

Acoustic Panels 16,900

Total: **20,000**