



## Minutes of the Friends of Hartman Reserve Board Meeting

Nov. 9, 2021

5:30 pm

In person Location: Hartman Reserve Nature Center

Zoom link provided for those who wish to participate virtually

Present: Jim Young, Dwight Fritts, Kathy Green, Kolby Kestel, Nina Hamer, Gretchen Ogden, Kendra Wohlert, Diane Holmes, Nate Goetsch, Joel Haack, and Bridgett Wood

Absent: Theresa Johnson, Emma Krgo, Tom Blanford

Also in attendance: Amy Davison, Hartman Unit Manager

- I. Call to Order – Jim Young at 5:33 pm
- II. Review and Approval of Agenda – Nate Goetsch moved, Dwight Fritts seconded, motion carried.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes of 10/12/21 meeting – sent via email – no additions or corrections. Kathy Green moved, Kendra Wohlert seconded, motion carried.
- IV. Review and File Financial Statement for Audit – Kathy Green sent via email
  - A. \$20,000 check from Gallagher Family Foundation – Kathy has written check to transfer these funds to Hartman in line with the donor’s wishes.
  - B. Gallagher Foundation money is saved in a program trust account that can only be used by Hartman; any leftover funds at end of year are saved to use for specific projects.
- V. Hartman Unit Manager, Amy Davison
  - A. November report is appended below.
  - B. Planned meeting with Tyler Green to reevaluate accessibility of building is postponed due to Tyler being hospitalized following an accident.
- VI. Committees
  - A. Executive Committee-standing – Jim
    - i. Committee met to set agenda for this meeting
    - ii. Jim will be meeting with Andrew Morse at UNI to discuss how they developed the UNI land acknowledgement/stewardship statement
  - B. Finance Committee - standing – Kathy – no further reports
  - C. Website update /Facebook group– updates
    - i. Jim will try contacting Anna Blanford again for assistance with updating the website
    - ii. Friends of Hartman Reserve Facebook group – board members are encouraged to share events and photos
    - iii. Instagram/Facebook – Kolby/Nina
      1. Can post to both Instagram and Facebook simultaneously
      2. Need someone to monitor, administer the accounts
      3. Need to create a page on Facebook, not just a group, to share between FB and IG (enables people outside the group to find the page)
        - a. A group allows members to share and post, but is not public

- b. The content of a page is controlled by us (admins), but public can leave comments or tag our page
  - D. Friends merchandise update – Nina
    - i. Winter items are available
    - ii. Go to Xpressions site - either browse to the page or go through the link on our website to find where the date of the next batch of orders is listed
  - E. Youth Board members – Emma and Kolby
    - i. Still hashing out ideas
  - F. Accessibility initiatives - Diane, Theresa, and Joel
    - i. Had scheduled meeting with Tyler Green, but postponed (see above)
    - ii. Theresa investigated Braille signage
    - iii. Memory Cafés are very successful
    - iv. Inclusive Trails Webinar – Bridgett and Joel
      1. “With discomfort comes growth”
      2. Realization that there is work to be done to make trails accessible to more community members, including those who use wheelchairs
      3. Good to hear directly from people who are affected
      4. Availability and accessibility of bathrooms are a big issue on the Cedar Valley trail system. People who use wheelchairs and go biking can’t take a wheelchair with them, so they can’t use the wheelchair-accessible bathroom. Potential solution would be to have a loaner wheelchair available.
      5. We can’t make everything accessible but can use signs and maps to indicate what is (and isn’t) accessible to help people make their own decisions.
      6. Even though walking trails through Hartman are mostly too steep to be made accessible, we can highlight the system of paved trails that goes through Hartman and is connected to both of our communities.
      7. Advocacy groups can help less represented community members feel welcome and included (e.g., Black Girls Bike)
      8. Adding other languages and Braille to signage
      9. Name a trail for a Black or Indigenous community leader and have a naming ceremony
      10. Promote nature itself rather than the health benefits of walking itself to appeal to people who depend on walking as transportation (fits with existing Hartman initiative)
      11. Hold meetings in places that are non-threatening (not in government buildings)
  - G. Inclusivity/Diversity Committee
    - i. Community Foundation has a BIPOC registry and Jim will look for information about that
- VII. New Business
  - A. Bylaws and Action Plan– updated version – records/files with changes approved at the October 2021 board meeting were sent as email attachments prior to the meeting

- B. Looking for board members able to attend a Community Foundation event: “Different and Better: Strategies to Build a Strong Board and Successful Organization” – Thursday, Nov. 11 – 3 – 5 p.m.
- C. Committee Rosters
  - i. Executive – Jim, Nina, Kathy, and Laura
  - ii. Finance –Kathy, Gretchen, Tom, Nate, and Jim \* Jeanne Miller
  - iii. Accessibility – Diane, Joel, and Theresa
  - iv. Inclusivity /Diversity – Kendra, Bridgett, Jim
  - v. Social media/website/ - Dwight, Kolby
  - vi. Youth Board member liaison - will determine when they have their project idea as to who will best help facilitate/assist them.
- D. Winter Wonderland event – Saturdays - December 4 and 11 – asking board members to volunteer for at least one of the afternoons
  - i. Jim will reach out to members not present tonight for additional volunteers
  - ii. Volunteers need to arrive by 3:30 to prep hot cocoa
  - iii. Plan for our part of the event:
    - 1. Max number of people per 1-hour session is 150
    - 2. In community room, will have tables, decorations, and festive music or holiday movies set up beforehand (by Hartman staff).
    - 3. Friends Board will serve cocoa and cookies in open house format.
    - 4. Nina has priced out cookies and cocoa toppings. Martin Bros has best prices (for boxes of 72 prebaked frozen cookies of four types). Hartman is providing hot cocoa mix.
    - 5. Need to prepare hot chocolate in large coffee pots. (Rotate through to keep them full.) Make sure not too hot for kids.
    - 6. Friends would need to purchase 8 oz cups and napkins (preferably biodegradable) or seek donations (from a coffee shop)
    - 7. Due to Covid, we suggest masks and gloves for servers, and we will serve the requested toppings
    - 8. Bonus points for Santa or Elf costumes!
- E. November Newsletter update
  - i. List of funded projects
  - ii. Pics from the Donor event
  - iii. New board member bios
- F. Other –
  - i. December snacks and wine – Board members please bring a snack to share at the December meeting
  - ii. Possible projects to fund
    - 1. Software to run on Smartboard in exhibit area – goal is to use it for maps of recreational opportunities and parks in Cedar Valley (to replace laminated map that’s there now). Amy will provide details and cost (probably in the thousands) in the next couple of weeks.

2. Storage shelves for the basement to hold totes of materials and supplies. Amy will send us number and details by the end of this month.

VIII. Adjourn – Nina Hamer moved, Diane Holmes seconded, motion carried. 6:57 pm

### Appendices

#### **Amy's Report:**

What is happening at Hartman?

Nov. 9, 2021

Current projects and events

We had a great Under the Harvest Moon event on the 29th. Thank you to all of you who attended; it was great to see you!

Naturalist's and the AmeriCorps staff are attending the IAN conference this week

Cement by the Buckles has been completed and by the Sugar Shack. We are waiting on the benches and the firebowl to arrive.

Upcoming events:

Schools out day Nov. 12

Yoga and Forest bathing Nov. 14

Second Sunday Speaker history of Hartman Nov. 14

Yoga and Aya dance Nov. 14

Family Fall Hike Nov. 16

Nestling Naturalist Nov. 18

Sound therapy and meditation Nov. 21

Dec1-15 Yoga

Dec. 4 and 11 – Woodland Wonderland – Dec 4<sup>th</sup> is nearly full (300 total people)

Dec. 5th laughter yoga

Dec. 6-20 yoga

Dec. 9th Nestling Naturalist

This has been a wonderful and successful summer and fall. We have completed many projects and are looking forward to continuing projects in the spring. Staff are gearing up for fall and winter programs such as hikes, snowshoeing and woodland wonderland.

Jim had just finished planting native prairie plants in Lucy's Meadow, and we will be adding trees there in the fall.

Planted 200 trees along bluff to help with erosion. There are other areas with erosion problems, and staff are working on developing a plan.

Thank you!

**Different and Better: Strategies to Build a Strong Board and Successful Organization**

**Thursday, November 11, 2021**

**3:00-5:00pm**

Join the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa and Paul Thelen, director of the Larned A. Waterman Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center at the University of Iowa, for this **FREE** Board Fundamentals event!

**Sign up early as space is limited. Must register by [Tuesday, November 9](#).**

**Two Attendance Options Available:**

- **In-Person:** Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, 3117 Greenhill Circle, Cedar Falls
- *Virtual option is available as well*

**Who should attend:**

Board members and senior nonprofit staff members, including development staff.

**The Workshop:**

While a common passion for the mission of an organization can unify a board, it can be the differences of individual members that strengthen overall board performance and improve organizational impact. This session begins by sharing stories that illustrate the ways differences have benefited boards, organizations, and the people they serve. We will explore a range of differences we should be considering as we recruit and build a board team. We will also discuss strategies to ensure that differences are generative and not destructive.

**Key Takeaways**

- Learn a wide array of key differences and how to recognize them in oneself and others
- Enjoy a greater understanding of the ways individual differences improve board and organizational performance
- Be motivated to share and apply this knowledge in their organizations
- Be prepared for differences to be positive and generative versus negative and destructive

Light refreshments will be available for in-person attendees. This program is available to nonprofit agencies.

- **Sign up early as space is limited. Must register by [Tuesday, November 9](#).**