

# Friends of Hartman Reserve

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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: December 8, 2020**

**Time: 5:30 pm**

**Location: online via Zoom**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Tom Blanford, Henry Frederick, Dwight Fritts, Henry Giddens, Nate Goetsch, Joel Haack, Kathy Green, Nina Hamer, Diane Holmes, Theresa Johnson, Gretchen Ogden, Laura Walter, Kendra Wohlert, Jim Young

**Absent:**

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

- I. Call to Order – Jim Young 5:30
- II. Review and Approval of Agenda
  - A. Motion to approve with Tom, Dwight, motion carried
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes of 11-10 meeting (sent via email)
  - A. Joel moved approval, Nina seconded, motion carried
- IV. Review and File Financial Statement for Audit – Kathy Green (statements and committee report sent via email)
  - A. Bank Account balances, donations, endowment
  - B. Received bank statement on Dec. 8
  - C. Dementia CV check will be cashed in December
  - D. Sarah Fogdall Miller grant \$500 received in November; please thank them
  - E. Small donations, including from United Way of Dane County, WI, CV United Way, Frontstream (employer donor pool)
  - F. Hoping for end of year donations, BHCCB sent out end of year appeal this month
  - G. Finance Committee will meet before January meeting to make a recommendation about our \$20K pledge to the county - take entire amount from endowment disbursement or split between money market account and endowment, leaving \$15K in money market

- H. Financial report filed for audit
- I. Thank you letters for all donors have been sent (Jim)
- V. Hartman Unit Manager, Amy Davison –
  - A. December report (appended to agenda and sent via email)
  - B. Hartman received check from Young Family Foundation (\$20K for Friends Endowment)
  - C. Holiday Lights show - over 1000 people visited on Saturday, wait times were the only challenge. Every weekend Friday and Saturday, with Christmas Eve as the last night.
  - D. AmeriCorps member (Sam) started, has experience with parks and natural history interpretation
  - E. Not going to be a typical MSF this year (no pancakes). March will be Maple Syrup Madness. Working with local businesses to make maple themed products. Some ideas: inviting people to tap trees, backyard maple syrup, Cooking with Connie video series. People who bought VIP passes - Hartman may give them breakfast at their home using mobile griddles, will let those people know
  - F. Jim is installing second section of kryton panels
  - G. Hacking tower has been taken down. Staff are working with Cutts family to put up a memorial bench closer to the Center, along with a sign providing information about the osprey program.
  - H. Will have snowshoe hikes this winter, but not participating in Iowa Winter Games race. There are snowshoes for rent at the Center.
- VI. Committees
  - A. Executive Committee-standing – Jim
    - 1. Set agenda for tonight
    - 2. Chose text and image for Bricks for Birds
  - B. Finance Committee-standing – Kathy
    - 1. Planning to meet before January board meeting
  - C. Website/Social Media update - Jim
    - 1. Discussion of Website/Facebook administrator
    - 2. Many frustrations, but Miranda now has the access that she needs and is actively editing the website
    - 3. Any announcements to share on the Announcements page?
    - 4. Miranda has spent about 19 hours so far. Jim will ask her if she wants to be paid at the end of the project or receive a partial check
  - D. Friends merchandise update - Nina
    - 1. Xpressions promised something by 5:00 today

2. Nina has asked them to give us a price comparison for American made merchandise
  3. Short staffed and China delays
- E. Youth Board members – Henry and Henry
1. The Board has some questions about long term costs and management of their project.
  2. Amy - if using the Soundcloud website, there should be no charge, and QR codes should be free or low cost. 2900 people downloaded and listened to Halloween Hikes
- F. Inclusion/Accessibility initiatives -Diane, Theresa, and Joel
1. Dementia Cedar Valley conversation/take away
  2. Diane - had training with DCV, geared toward laypeople. All or most of staff was there. Presenter presented a scenario at the end of the training, and the staff responded well.
  3. Dementia Cafe. There is a community need for a safe place for people to gather where community members can interact positively with people who have dementia. Hartman Friends could host a monthly volunteer-led dementia cafe (or another name) that could involve social time, guided hikes, and UNI student groups.
  4. Joel - Audubon Society has a program for blind birders and a 48-page report about attracting people from communities who do not think about using natural areas
  5. Amy met with LaTanya with NAACP to talk about possible partnerships. Hartman needs a larger presence in the community. Looking at building relationships through taking programming to “where the people are.”
- G. Newsletter update
1. Laura will set up a Mailchimp account. We will draft the newsletter in a separate document, and Laura will copy the content into the newsletter template.
  2. Kathy has asked for help finding email addresses for Friends donors
  3. Looking for a feature article on inclusion activities - to go out in January
  4. Will include information on how to give, including Endow Iowa Tax Credit so that our donors can take advantage of it before it is gone.
  5. Please email Jim with suggested content
- VII. New Business
- A. Possible Bylaws amendment : Article II Board of Directors, Section 2  
Composition: C. Up to two additional positions, non-voting, shall be allotted for

youth board directors under the age of 18 ***or through the completion of their senior year of high school.***

- B. Motion to adopt bylaws amendment - Nina, Kathy, motion carried
- C. Jim will update this in the Bylaws.
- D. CBE Grant – Jim
  1. Nina's company (CBE) has a fundraiser called Casual for a Cause which brings in approximately \$4000 per month. Employees vote on winners, and usually bring a check to the winners as a surprise. This has to come from the Friends, because it can only go to a 501(C)3. The due date is midnight on December 13.
  2. The Inclusion Committee is working on an application for adaptive fishing equipment to help Amy and Hartman Reserve staff start an adaptive fishing program (automatic retrieve poles, special vests to help stabilize the pole, props for wrists, etc). Theresa has reached out to Fishing without Boundaries. Amy will contact Camp Courageous and Camp Sunnyside to find out which adaptive fishing equipment is the most advantageous.

VIII. Adjourn motion Theresa, Nate, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:17 pm.

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Friends of Hartman Reserve

### **What is happening now at Hartman?**

Staff is continuing the Service Enterprise training with the Volunteer Center.

AmeriCorps member Sam Hanson started Dec. 1 and will be with us through the month of August 2021.

Hacking tower was taken down to prevent people from climbing and due to its disrepair.

Staff has been working on mascot cut outs and paintings for various projects and some are included in the holiday light show.

Holiday light show had 651 cars on the first night

Preliminary planning is getting underway for Maple Syrup fest, will look much different this year.

Working with Park Rangers to set some focus areas to work on including trimming trees and filling in the holes along Shirey Way, inspecting bridges and overlooks, Kiwanis shelter and ski loop.

### **Up-coming programs:**

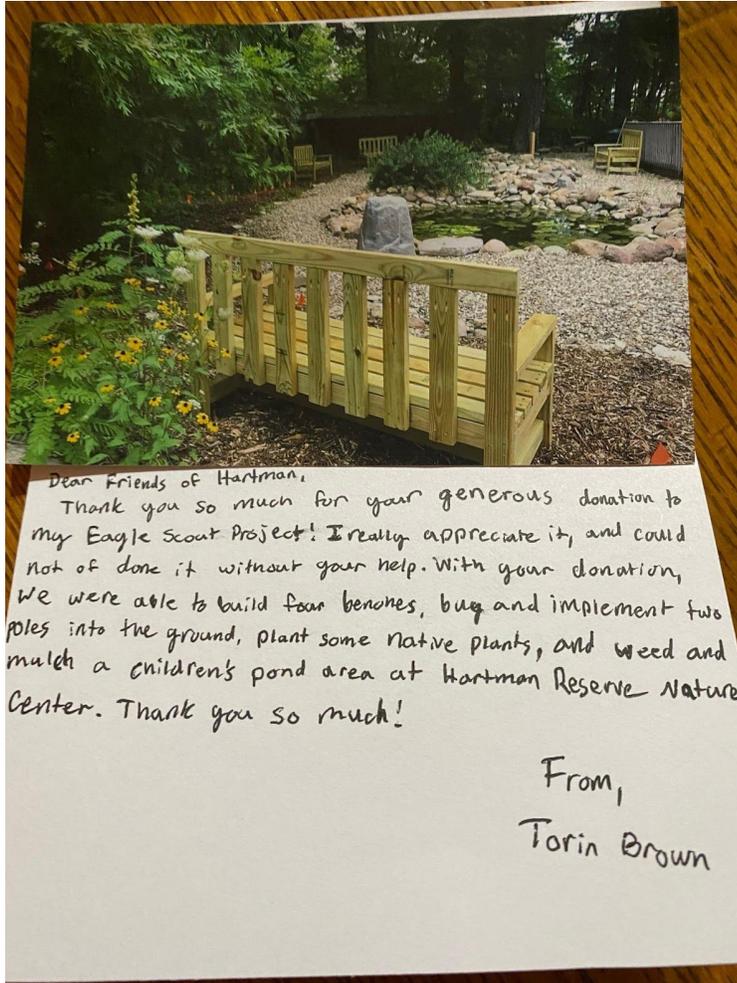
**Programs will resume after the first of the year**

### **Project Updates:**

- Second set of Kryton panels will be going up next week.
- Exhibit work will start up again in the next few months as the colder weather sets in we will be installing the touch tank, finishing up the boathouse room, Solar Turtle is being shipped and will be installed to run the exhibit under the turtle tank.

## Discussion

Picture of Torin Brown's thank you note for our support of his Eagle Scout



project.