

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

December 10, 2019

5:30 pm

Location: Hartman Reserve Nature Center, Buckles Building

Board Members in Attendance: Henry Frederick, Henry Giddens, Nate Goetsch, Kathy Green, Nina Hamer, Diane Holmes, Theresa Johnson, Laura Walter, Kendra Wohlert, Jim Young

Absent: Tom Blanford, Dwight Fritts, Sherm Lundy, Jeremia Matz, Samuel Miller, Mike Ohrt, Laura Wilson,

Also in Attendance: Amy Davison, Hartman Reserve Unit Manager

- I. Meeting was called to order by President Wohlert at 5:36 pm
- II. Review and Approval of Agenda - Jim Young moved and Theresa Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes - Kathy Green moved and Nina Hamer seconded. Motion carried.
- IV. Hartman Happenings - Amy Davison presented; summary also printed on the back page of the [December FOHR Meeting Agenda](#)
 - A. The house by the entrance will be torn down next week. Permit is in place.
 - B. Aquarium displays for vernal pond and stream will be up by Maple Syrup Fest, with all animals except tree frogs in place.
 - C. Bottom row of kryton wetland panels is in place.
 - D. Hartman is receiving a number of specimens from the taxidermy collection from UNI Museums including a baby bison, mountain lion, and numerous birds.
 - E. Pop-up succulent planting event was big success - 35 people attended with as many on the waiting list. Staff are considering similar future events.
 - F. Staff have located a source for salvaged barn board and tin for the “boat house” look by the aquatic displays.
 - G. A volunteer (?) is working on outdoor signage and skunk and toad mascots for Hartman signage and printed materials.

- H. Seven Scout Badge Work Days are planned, starting in January to provide hands-on components for STEM-related badges. Summer programs will also be aligned with Scout badge requirements. Hartman is partnering with other organizations on these programs: Retrieving Freedom, Allen College of Nursing, and the Inclusion Connection.
- I. Opportunities for FOHR contribution
 - 1. Inclusion Connection - To become a partner organization requires a \$900 contribution. This organization promotes inclusion of people with a range of abilities and can provide staff trainings and advice on accessibility issues. Discussion - this aligns well with FOHR purposes, which include improving accessibility and inclusion. Diane Holmes noted that there is also a federal agency or organization that assists with accessibility of natural areas.
 - 2. Silos & Smokestacks is offering an internship opportunity at Hartman for a media associate, 300 hours maximum, to work on the website, graphic design, summer camp promotion, and social media presence. Silos & Smokestacks pays for 70% of this position, and a 30% match is required.
- V. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee - met Tuesday, December 3 - Wohler reporting. Topics discussed:
 - 1. Friends "membership"
 - a) Ongoing discussion of what it means to be a "Friend" - endowment donation, other activities
 - b) Appeal letter - to be sent in May, contents will be subject of work in April; we have existing mailing lists from Connie Svoboda and are adding information about new donors
 - 2. Logo redesign - we need a new logo with accurate name (Friends of Hartman Reserve rather than Hartman Reserve Nature Center) but this poses design challenges in balancing text in the old circular logo; Reg Green has provided a [rectangular logo](#) that includes familiar items (pileated woodpecker) but allows text to be balanced; we need a decision on the logo by January so that it can be included in the new brochure (designed by CFNEIA), the sponsorship banner for Maple Syrup Fest, and other printed matter and publicity. Members offered some suggestions for revision of the logo, and Kendra will consult with Chris Corkery for advice before January.
 - 3. Strategic planning process will begin in January.
 - 4. Kathy Green is creating a perpetual calendar for FOHR Board activities.

5. CFNEIA (Community Foundation) will notify us in January as to the amount of the disbursement that would be allowable this year.
 6. United Way - FOHR receives some small donations from payroll deductions through United Way, but it has been hard to find information (names and addresses) needed to acknowledge the donors; canceled our participation in United Way, but Hartman Reserve cannot participate (not a 501(c)3); Nina Hamer states that United Way can provide donor contact information on demand; Kathy Green may sign FOHR up again, knowing this.
- B. Finance Committee - Kathy Green, Treasurer, reporting
1. The following reports are linked:
 - a) [Finance Committee Report December 2019](#)
 - b) [November 30 Financials](#)
 2. FOHR has received \$1200 in donations since November, allowing us to consider funding new opportunities at Hartman (e.g., Inclusion Connection) and a substantial sponsorship of Maple Syrup Festival
 3. The Finance Committee drafted a set of [Financial Management Guidelines](#) and presented them to the Board for review; Board members suggested edits, and the Finance Committee will incorporate them. The full board will vote on these guidelines in January.
- C. Strategic Planning Committee - Kendra Wohlert reporting
1. First meeting to be held January 7, 2020
 2. Members - Executive Committee plus Theresa Johnson, Diane Holmes, and Nina Hamer
- VI. Youth Board Update - Henry Giddens and Henry Frederick - Youth members will provide a hands-on activity to support Scout work toward the Soil and Water Conservation Badge. They wish to use part of their budget to purchase stream tables that could be used to demonstrate conservation practices at Scout Badge Work Days and other Hartman events. Amy Davison stated that Hartman has one stream table that the Youth Members could use.
- VII. Old Business
- A. Friends Board Walk was attended by several Board members, families, and neighbors
 - B. Trails Committee - Amy Davison will put out a Doodle Poll to organize this; some progress is being made:
 1. A naturalist is redesigning the signs for spring wildflower hikes
 2. CVAST has been contributing to trail work

3. Beavers have knocked down some larger trees near Shirey Lake; Katie and Katy have chainsaw training, but some of these downed trees are more complicated than they can handle so far

VIII. New Business

- A. Friends sponsorship of Maple Syrup Festival (March 6-8, 2020)
 1. Nate Goetsch moved that the Friends sponsor the Maple Syrup Festival. Jim Young seconded. Motion carried. Discussion: sponsorship aligns with the FOHR mission and signals to the community that Friends are still active.
 2. Kathy Green moved that the Friends contribute \$1000 to sponsor the Maple Syrup Festival. Diane Holmes seconded. Motion carried.
 3. Individual or business sponsorships available (contact Connie Svoboda at Hartman)
 - B. New logo / CFNEIA brochure - discussed under committee reports (Executive Committee (see above: point V.A.2)
 - C. January 1 "First Day" Friends Walk will be held at 2:00 pm for any board member (and family, friends) wishing to take part. Laura Walter will send an invitation. Jim Young suggests having a cancellation plan in case of severe winter weather.
 - D. Friends committee - will begin meeting in early 2020
- IX. Adjournment - Laura Walter moved, Jim Young seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Walter, FOHR Secretary