

Reversing Falls Sanctuary
Minutes of the April 19, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting
Revised 04/30/2021

Present in Zoom: Camilla, Daksha, Gary, Kathleen, Lisa, Ralph, Sheila

Facilitator: Lisa

Recorder: Camilla

Opening: Lisa shared her thoughts about our Happy Spring. Others joined in with their comments. All agreed that it has been lovely.

Agenda Review: No changes.

Minutes of the March 15, 2021 Meeting: Approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Ralph has not completed the monthly report due to two complications that he will straighten out. 1) The CAN bank account could not be accessed with the existing account ID and password. 2) There is a problem with the automatic payment of RFS electronic bills. Once these issues are resolved, Ralph will submit his report.

Ralph also called the Board's attention to the following matters:

a. Tony notified Ralph that there is a problem transferring PayPal donations to the CAN account. This brought up two concerns. The first is that funds designated for CAN are being held by PayPal and are not accessible to CAN. The second is that these funds represent individual donations. The hold on funds could prevent us from identifying donors and recognizing gifts in a timely manner.

i. Action item: After some discussion on issues related to the transfer of funds from PayPal to the CAN account, it was agreed that Kathleen would reach out directly to Pay Pal and intervene on CAN's behalf.

ii. Action item: Ralph and Tony can go to the Activity Section in the CAN Pay Pal account to access information on donors to CAN.

b. There is a recurring problem with a small discrepancy rate on deposit accounting. Daksha receives bank deposit records and then forwards the information to Gail and Ralph. At times, Ralph does not receive information in a form that allows him to identify individual deposits for accurate accounting and budget reconciliation.

i. Action Item: Daksha and Ralph will review previous email content and address the ways in which they can most effectively communicate by email.

Program Report: Sheila reported for the Program team.

- a. On behalf of RFS, Gary has submitted our signed petition to Harvard, seeking the return of indigenous remains to the Wabanaki people.

- b. The program team has discussed possible reasons for the low response to the second Zoom series event on Expressions of Creative Resistance. They suspect that simple “Zoom fatigue” is setting in, and hope to be able to address this by holding the third session in the building.
- c. A Zoom online session for the Intergenerational Climate Conversation was reviewed.
- d. Earth Day celebration to include the ringing of Church bells and an Earth Day flag display.
- e. If possible, plans will be made for a Summer Solstice event.

Building and Grounds Report:

- a. Daksha reported that work is proceeding slowly but surely on the list of priority items on the “to do” list.
- b. Workday on grounds scheduled for Saturday, the 24th. (Completed at time of record. New workday scheduled by Daksha for Saturday, May 1stst.)
- c. EV Charging Station Grant: Lisa, Daksha and Kathleen reported on what they had learned from their conversations with (1) the Grantor related to criteria for proposal evaluations and (2) from EV owners about their experiences. This was discussed in light of the question on the table for the Board as to whether to proceed with the application process or consult further with the power company and possibly an electrician. **Action item:** Daksha will call the power company first.

Gallery Within Report: The Bagaduce Watershed Association and BHHT request for GW space for the August photo/contest show was approved, dependent upon COVID 19 restrictions in place at that time.

Old Business:

a. Access to Building: After lengthy discussion that took into account the upcoming needs of the Program Committee; our ability to meet and give notice of Federal and State CDC guidelines to attendees; and our ability to meet the needs of those wanting to participate in the event, the Board reached the following consensus, effective the first of May.

- I.* If current COVID19 conditions remain at least stable, RFS Committee activities and BOD meetings can be held outside the building.
- ii.* Building access would be limited to the use of one bathroom.
- iii.* All outdoor activities and meetings would be planned and held in compliance with current CDC and State of Maine COVID 19 regulations.
- iv.* An RFS notice of guidelines for participant compliance would be posted on-site the day of the event.
- v.* For those wanting to attend an event, but not comfortable with meeting outside, RFS will try to provide ZOOM access for the event.

b. Virtual Community Meeting: The Board continues to consider the idea. Concerns were raised about the ability to plan, Zoom burnout, and whether it would be disadvantageous to hold it virtually as opposed to waiting until it could be held in person. Discussion followed about our responsibility to continue to reach out, identify and meet community needs.

Next Meeting: May 17, 4:00 PM Outside and via Zoom.

Facilitator: Camilla

Recorder: Daksha