

Reversing Falls Sanctuary
Minutes of the September 14, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting

Present in RFS parking lot: Camilla, Daksha, David, Gary, Kathleen, Lisa, Ralph, Sheila

Facilitator: Kathleen

Recorder: Lisa

1. **Opening:** Kathleen read from Wendell Berry's poem collection, *A Timbered Choir*.
2. **Minutes from the last meeting were approved.**
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Detailed report sent by Ralph prior to the meeting.
 - a. Ralph paid invoice received by Bob Poole for work and materials done from 2/21/2020 to 5/14/2020.
 - i. **Action item:** Daksha will contact Bob to see if this makes us current with everything that's been done so far.
 - b. Ralph also paid an invoice received for last winter's snow plowing.
4. **Program Report:** Detailed report sent by Gary prior to the meeting.
 - a. Deer Isle/Stonington Middle school online art show in collaboration with the RFS Gallery Within Team coming soon.
 - b. The program team has been working on revising the RFS Mission Statement in response to COVID-19 conditions and they are planning to send several draft versions to the Board for input.
 - i. Since the mission statement is an organization-wide topic, this led to a discussion about communication between the Program Team and the Board, and what falls in which wheelhouse.
 - ii. The Board requests that the Program Team be sensitive to informing the Board about organization-wide topics they are pursuing by emailing Camilla, the Board's communication point person.
5. **Building and Grounds Report:** Detailed report sent by Daksha before the meeting.
 - a. Steeple grant update has been difficult to obtain. Daksha has attempted to contact Dee to no avail. Any further work on the steeple continues to be on hold.
 - b. **Action item:** Daksha will contact both Bob and Dee again in hopes of getting an update on the status of the grant application.
 - c. Daksha proposed closing the building for the winter, draining pipes, etc.
 - d. Piano will be moved soon.
6. **Gallery Within Report:** There has been no gallery activity. Daksha is hoping Bec might be interested in being on the Gallery Team. *Was Ralph going to ask her?*
7. **Old Business**
 - a. **Visioning in the time of COVID:** The Board approved spending up to \$350 to hire a consultant to facilitate a strategic planning meeting with the Board and as many Program Team members willing and able to attend.
 - i. **Action item:** Sheila will contact Deb Burwell about her availability and to see if there is a cost difference based on the number of attendees, 8 verses 13.
 - b. **CAN Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement:** Kathleen has completed revisions to v.7 and thinks this could be the one, except for some uncertainty about item #4 related to Tony submitting grant reports to the Board for review and approval before submitting them to the granting organization. Tony expressed some objection to this. After some discussion,

the Board agreed that this is an important item to keep in the agreement and to request that Tony comply.

i. Action item: Kathleen will submit the agreement to Tony.

c. 2020 Community Donations: It was decided that RFS will donate \$500 each to:

i. Wabanaki Reach

ii. Call to Action Wabanaki Alliance, for food security

iii. Sheri Mitchell's Spiret Foundation, for the Wicuhkemtultine Kinship Community Project.

iv. Possibly Deer Isle/Stonington school lunch program, if there's a need.

1. **Action item:** Daksha will contact them to find out their latest needs.

v. Action item: Gary will send Ralph mailing addresses and information about who to make the checks out to.

8. New Business

a. Fundraising Ideas. Gary introduced a couple of ideas that met with much enthusiasm and joviality. Thank you, Gary.

i. Virtual masked ball for Halloween with music and dancing, a \$10 fee to participate and prizes for best of categories.

ii. Online auction sometime during the winter (Daksha's idea)

iii. Steeple Chase in the spring. Participants procure donations to sponsor a walk, run, or some activity of their choosing from wherever and ending up at the sanctuary. Pictures can be taken and posted on the RFS website.

Next meeting: October 19, 4:00 PM via Zoom: Ralph will host the Zoom session and will send access info prior to the meeting.

Facilitator: Lisa

Recorder: Daksha

Submitted by Lisa Mazzarelli, 9/15/2020.