

Approved 6/16/09

Friends of the Ypsilanti Freighthouse
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 19, 2009

Approved Minutes

- I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Bonnie Penet at 7:00 pm.
- II. Attendance
Board Members Present – Bonnie Penet, Nathalie Edmunds, Martha Kern-Boprie, Cassandra Kozlowski, Linda French, Susan Campbell, Ron Rupert, Edward Penet

Board Members Absent – Ruth Spiers, Lesley Chace, Steve Gross, David Wheeler, Norris Stephens

Others Present – Andrea Linn, Phil D’Anieri, Mike Miller, Karl Baer, Denise Slone, Bob Slone, John Reiser, Elizabeth Marshall, Mimi Dibble
- III. Introductions
Board members introduced themselves to visitors. Visitors included:
Phil D’Anieri of Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation (AAACF)
Karl Baer of Depot Town Farmers Market Vendors
Mimi Dibble of Fifth Third Bank
Andrea Linn, Denise Slone and Bob Slone of the Fundraising Committee
Mike Miller, John Reiser, Elizabeth Marshall
- IV. Approval of Minutes of April 21, 2009
It was moved by Edward Penet and supported by Linda French to approve the minutes of 4/21/09 with correction of the AAACF grant award amount to \$100,300. The motion carried.
- V. Treasurer’s Report
Casey Kozlowski presented the Treasurer’s Report with activity through 5/18/09. Bank account balances were:
Checking \$ 275.25
Savings \$2,465.49
Total Cash \$2,740.74
It was moved by Edward Penet and supported by Martha Kern-Boprie that the Treasurer’s Report be received. The motion carried.
- VI. Old Business
 - A. Grant Updates
 1. SHPO funded Storm Water Management Grant
The rain garden is complete. It worked well during a heavy rainfall during the past week. Many photographs were taken to document the project. Additional plantings will take place in spring 2010.
 2. AAACF funded Architectural/Engineering Drawings Grant
Phil D’Anieri, Program Director for the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation spoke about the importance of the Freighthouse restoration as a countywide project and community asset. He said the AAACF will contribute some of Phil’s time to assist FOYF with leveraging funds from other sponsors and with board development. See comments under the MDOT/Stimulus funded grant for more detail on the Architectural/Engineering Drawings progress.

3. MDOT/Stimulus funded Grant
Architectural/Engineering Drawings were reviewed 5/18/09. Finished drawings are due to MDOT by mid-June. MDOT will bid out projects based on the drawings.

The city of Ypsilanti is administering this grant with internal staff plus assistance from consultant Kent Early. The award period start and end dates have not been established yet.

- B. Ann Arbor – Detroit Rail Stop
City council approved the Ann Arbor – Detroit commuter line rail stop on the west side of the tracks, connected to the Freighthouse.
- C. Ypsilanti Pride Day Update
The storage closet in the Freighthouse was cleaned out and organized.

VII. New Business

- A. Grants Committee Report
Susan Campbell, committee chair is investigating funding opportunities from railroad clubs and the history channel. Carl's Foundation in Detroit is a potential sponsor. Phil D'Anieri said he plans to meet with the Grants Committee to help with securing grant funding from sponsors he is familiar with.

- B. Board Member Resignation
Lesley Chace submitted her resignation from the FOYF Board to Bonnie Penet. Lesley is resigning due to increasing family responsibilities. It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Casey Kozlowski to accept the resignation of Lesley Chace with regret and gratitude for her service to FOYF. The motion carried.

It was moved by Edward Penet and supported by Casey Kozlowski to send a letter of thanks to Lesley Chace. The motion carried.

- C. Fundraising Committee Report
Denise Slone, committee chair reported on fundraising initiatives developed by the committee.

1. Antiques Sale in the Freighthouse Café
2. Donation Jars at the Depot Town Farmers Market and local businesses
3. Online Donations

Denise Slone introduced Mimi Dibble of Fifth Third Bank, who presented a proposal to conduct online donations processed through Fifth Third Bank. Mimi noted that Debit & Credit Card processing is a major part of Fifth Third Bank operations, and that Fifth Third Bank is the fourth largest processor in the USA. Online donations could be made in "one-time" amounts, monthly amounts, and fundraiser sales could be processed via this mode for auctions, product sales and event tickets.

Fifth Third Bank uses its product Authorize.net to process online donations and purchases. The cost to FOYF for processing is a base rate of 2.46% plus the following fees:

One-time Set Up Fee	\$99
Per Month Fee	\$20
Recurring Billing Per Month Fee	\$10
Per Transaction Fee	\$.10

For either one-time or recurring billing options, there is a Set Up Fee of \$99. Monthly Fee for one-time only donations is \$20; for one-time plus recurring \$20 + \$10 = \$30.

It was moved by Linda French and supported by Ron Rupert to approve entering the Fifth Third Bank Credit Card and Recurring Transaction proposal for FOYF. The motion carried.

4. Wine Sales Proposal

Bob Slone presented an opportunity to sell wine to benefit the FOYF. Spotted Dog Winery in Saline is the distributor he recommends. This company has been in business for several years and is a reliable vendor. The distributor would sell wine for \$7.50 per bottle, and the wine could then be retailed for a higher price, possibly \$13 to \$15 per bottle. The difference between purchase cost and retail sale is fundraising to FOYF. The wine would have to be sold through wine retailers with appropriate licensing from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (LLC).

It was moved by Linda French and supported by Susan Campbell to authorize Robert Slone to contact wine retailers, bars and the LLC about requirements and market potential for this wine sale proposal. The motion carried.

Bob Slone also recommended retaining some of the proceeds from the wine sales as seed money for future fundraising initiatives.

5. Rain Garden Celebration Event

A Saturday morning event to celebrate the recently completed Rain Garden and the Depot Town Farmers Market. The event would include presentations on the Rain Garden and a "Taste of the Farmers Market" to promote locally grown foods available at the Depot Town Farmers Market. The event would be free, with cans for free-will donations.

6. Beer/Wine/Jazz Event at the Heritage Festival in August

Emma Jackson has joined the Fundraising Committee and will handle Public Relations.

D. Bank Resolution – Authorized Signers

A new bank resolution has to be approved to authorize our new Treasurer Casy Kozlowski to sign drafts on FOYF bank accounts. It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Edward Penet to authorize Bonnie Penet, Nathalie Edmunds and Cassandra Kozlowski as authorized signers on FOYF bank accounts. The motion carried.

VIII. Announcements

- A. Next FOYF board meeting is 6/16/09 at 7:00 pm.
- B. Linda French proposed hanging flower baskets in Depot Town, similar to those on West Cross Street.
- C. Depot Town DDA meeting is 7:00 pm on 5/28/09, at the Freighthouse.
- D. Next Grants Committee meeting is 6/14/09.
- E. Building Committee meeting is 2:00 pm on 5/23/09 at the Freighthouse.

IX. Adjournment

It was moved by Edward Penet and supported by Susan Campbell to adjourn at 9:32 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by Martha Kern-Boprie, Board Member and Secretary

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