



# Ferry Beach Park Association

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## MINUTES

### FBPA Board meeting of Oct. 24, 2020 at Ferry Beach

(Minutes prepared by Bd. Secy. Ron Willett)

**Participants:** Attending at Ferry Beach were Executive Director Cathy Stackpole, Board President Marty Burgess, Secretary Ron Willett, Treasurer Doug Atkins, and Directors Meghan Chan, Alan Shepard, Richard Plumb, Pamela Emery, and Kathleen Dziadzio. Participating via Zoom (Internet platform) were Directors Caitlin Peale Sloan and Dee Wilbur.

Board President Marty Burgess called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

**Board Covenant:** Richard Plumb led the Directors in a review of a portion of the Board's Covenant.

\* An **Agenda** had prepared in advance and made available for review, including a Consent Agenda which was accepted without objections or additions. **Approval of the Consent Agenda was duly moved and seconded and approved unanimously:**

**Items approved via Consent Agenda:**

- \* Minutes from July 18, 2020 Board meeting

### **Treasurer's Report (Treasurer Doug Atkins):**

- \* Finances: Doug noted that an updated financial report was included in the materials for today's meeting and that there were no updates to report, except the following item:
- \* Secures Act grant: Doug reported success in the application for a grant under Maine's "Secures" Act and is expecting receipt of the \$100,000 grant in the near future.
- \* Endowment fund: Regarding the recently-announced policy regarding the endowment fund and its earnings, Doug note that at some point the Board will need to review a Bylaws provision involving a level of approval by the Board.

### **President's report (Marty Burgess):**

- \* Volunteerism: Marty reported that substantial volunteer efforts have continued and he stated that the staff and campus have benefitted from this help, noting that seasonal closure work opportunities continue through this weekend.
- \* Covid response: Marty recognized the efforts and accomplishments of the Sustainability Task Force over the past few months, especially in early summer: Jessie Washington, Craig Urian, Andrew Morse, Meghan Chan, Marty Burgess, Pam Emery, Kathleen Dziadzio.
- \* Membership ideas: Following a discussion about needs to address membership broadly, Marty suggested a meeting among some who have come forward expressing a desire to address these issues: Meghan Chan, Dee Wilbur, Lydia Gibb, and Hillary (?)

### **Executive Director/management report (Cathy Stackpole):**

- Fundraising: Cathy reported on recent gifts to fund a new roof for Rowland Hall and toward the insulation of the first floor of Rowland to enable cold-weather use of the first floor. Those fundraisers remain open.
- Town Hall: Cathy reported a good online Town Hall session on Oct. 22, noting that this platform could serve well in future for the Town Hall that traditionally precedes the Annual Meeting.
- UUA outreach: Cathy reported that she has continued outreach to the UUA regarding the Covid response policy without any success thus far, although she is expecting some type of announcement soon. She is hoping for some flexibility to encourage small church groups to feel safer and more comfortable booking gatherings at Ferry Beach.
- Star Island: Cathy continues communications with Star Island staff about the ongoing closure of that facility, noting that Ferry Beach hosted one of its music gatherings this summer. With the closure likely for a substantial period, she will look into potential partnerships.
- Winter programs, building use: Cathy continues local outreach noting campus spaces as suitable for small group meetings as well as her outreach to church groups.
- Locals: Cathy envisions and hopes for a group of local volunteers who could be available for campus projects without having to travel distances like many Ferry Beach. She is also considering some type of local membership which could include parking and beach access, some partial involvement which could inform locals about the whole range of F.B. activities.
- Membership drive: Cathy plans a major initiative around membership in January and February, especially toward the goal of securing Sustaining Donor monthly donations sufficient to pay monthly standing obligations. She will look for the Board's involvement, noting that she and Meghan have already shared some ideas.
- Generator issue: Cathy cited the old power generator as a major maintenance issue due to the coming winter weather and the fact that the generator we have has been sitting unused and exposed to the elements for some time. Refurbishing is likely since new generators are very costly and a new order involves a substantial delay due to backlog. Dee asked whether we have looked into solar panels, and Cathy said her inquiries revealed very high costs of purchase and installation. Dee noted that there are some programs for nonprofits and she and Cathy will look into that.
- Fall Festival & online auction: Cathy offered thanks to those who have worked on the Fall Festival and the online auction. Some discussion ensued about ideas for next year. Meghan and Dee will coordinate with others on a post-Fall-Festival recap and review.

### **Committees:**

- Philanthropy: Dee Wilbur reported that the focus has been on the Fall Festival and the related auction, and with that soon past the focus can return to membership fundraising.
- Governance: Caitlin noted that today's Annual Meeting will include a vote on the Board's proposed amendment to the Bylaws to enable an Annual Meeting via electronic media in future. Ron noted that the recent Town Hall included questions about whether the Board is able to conduct meetings electronically, so he and Caitlin will include this as a potential focus going forward.

**Next meetings, events:**

- Executive Committee (Zoom): Sunday Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m. (planning for January Retreat).
- Holiday Celebration/Town Hall (Zoom): Saturday Dec. 4, 7:00 p.m.
- Committee of the Whole (Zoom): Sunday Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m.
- Strategic Planning Retreat (on campus): Friday Jan. 29 -Sunday Jan. 31, 2021

Adjournment: At 11:05 a.m. it was **duly moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting, approved unanimously.**