



Ferry Beach Park Association

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MINUTES

FBPA Board meeting of November 10, 2018 at Ferry Beach (Cross Cottage meeting room)

Attending: Executive Director Cathy Stackpole, Directors Barbara Crowley, Marty Burgess, Ron Willett, Doug Atkins, Caitlin Peale Sloan, Jessie Washington, David Beseda, Pam Emery and Dee Wilbur. Steve Fogg participated via Skype. Four visitors from Dartmouth University's Tuck School of Business attended during the second half of the meeting for a briefing on the School's research project involving FBPA. Kathleen Dziadzio attended representing the Nominating Committee.

Board President Barbara Crowley called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

* The **Agenda** offered by Cathy Stackpole was distributed in advance and was approved without additions.

* **Minutes:** Draft Copies of Minutes of the Board's meeting of Sept. 9, 2018 had been distributed in advance and were approved without edit (motion to approve by Marty B. seconded by Caitlin P.S., unanimous approval, no abstentions).

* **President's Report (Barbara Crowley):**

- **Art Auction support:** Barbara encouraged the Directors to support generously the Art Auction this evening and she offered special thanks to Pam Emery for her time and work on it with Laura Vickery. She asked for volunteers in the event there are opportunities for Directors to make brief supportive comments during the event – Marty, Ron, and Dee volunteered.
- **Strategic Planning Retreat in January:** Barbara offered a reminder that the Board's annual planning retreat is set for Jan. 25-27, 2019, noting that Deb Bricknell will return as facilitator. Barbara described the retreat as the Board's opportunity to "dive deeply" into the Board's previously-identified strategic goals. She advised that the Board should retain focus on the goals throughout the year and expressed her hope and intention that each Board meeting throughout the year will include focus and updates on the goals. She added that this ongoing focus should avoid unrealistic expectations and should center on actual and achievable progress.

Barbara distributed copies of a brief document identifying topics and areas of work for the retreat and offered comments thereon. Discussion ensued.

Jessie proposed that the retreat also include work toward making and utilizing stakeholder connections. She also proposed focus on responsibility for the endowment and getting that on record.

Ron proposed that the retreat include reference to the Board Covenant adopted earlier this year.

Caitlin proposed that the Directors address and decide responsibility for the Annual Meeting.

Barbara suggested preliminary conversations on these matters during December.

Barbara led the Directors in a review of the Directors' areas of focus for the strategic goals, as follows:

David B: Nom. Comm. & Facilities

Marty B: Philanthropy, Facilities and Exec.Comm.

Jessie W: Philanthropy & Finance

Pam E: Philanthropy & Outreach

Ron W: Governance & Exec.Comm

Caitlin P.S: Governance

Doug A: Finance

Barbara noted that the current members of the Nominating Committee are Cyd Melcher, Kathleen Dziadzio, and Megan Chan.

*** Financial Report** (Treasurer Doug Atkins:)

- Doug noted that the financial report for Oct. 31 is not yet ready and Cathy noted that it will be posted in the Board Annex on the Google Drive when available.

Doug and Cathy noted major expenditures since the Board's prior meeting: replacement of a new walk-in refrigerator for the dining room, purchase of a car (previously approved by the Executive Committee) in lieu of the car rentals of the past few years, and necessary repairs to Rose Pavilion.

- Doug noted that the endowment was down a bit due to recent market declines.

*** Executive Director' Report:** Cathy Stackpole

- Personnel
 - Cathy is in the process of hiring for an Operations manager and will be hiring a chef who will also do maintenance when he is not cooking he will start in April. The current chef will also be on staff year-round. She is also heading a search for part-time staff
- Transitioning to year-round operations;
 - Gun club: Cathy reported on ongoing efforts with the neighboring gun club to secure a moratorium on outdoor firing during an upcoming retreat of a group that includes advocates against and survivors of gun-violence. While agreement has been reached with the club management, the informal structure of the club raises concerns about observance of the moratorium by club members. Cathy also addressed recent efforts by the city and the club's neighbors to relocate the facility, so far to no avail.
 - Facility upgrades: Cathy reported on efforts to engage members and donors in the campaign to fund facility improvements and upgrades: She reported that targeted outreach has begun regarding efforts to create "teams" of supporters for improvements to dorms, beginning with Rowland, which has the best potential for year-round use. Cathy cited an outreach to the Gayla fellowship. She distributed lists (one for the Gayla contacts and one list of FB donors) and discussion ensued about how to divide the

outreach work among the Directors. Barbara suggested the addition to each list of a column indicating Director choice for outreach, and it was agreed that this could be done easily and posted to the Board Annex in Google Drive.

- Food service:
 - Cathy reported on a current review and reassessment of food services and challenges, noting the increasing difficulty of providing menus agreeable to omnivores, vegetarians, and vegans. She commented on a couple of likely new approaches next summer.
- Software upgrades: Cathy reported that the search continues for suitable and affordable hotel/lodging software to ease and improve the conference registration process.
- Program: Cathy commented on some new programs planned for 2019: A Healing Service in the spring, a U.U. Persons of Color conference sponsored by the UUA in July, and a conference with a group called Gather the Women to include some gun-control advocates. Cathy also reported that the large meeting room in Quillen will now be called simply Dolphin Room without reference to any individual.
- ICL: Cathy expressed thanks to the Board for enabling her participation in the development program hosted by the Institute for Civic Leadership, which she has found to be rewarding.
- Cathy noted some upcoming events:
 - Dec. 17 Holiday Share Party – 5:30 p.m.
 - Dec. 31 Setting Intentions gathering, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
 - Feb. 14 Like [Sea] Water for Chocolate Community Dinner
- Budget proposal: Cathy had distributed copies of the proposed budget for 2018-2019 and made a few comments thereon.

*** Task Forces:**

- Governance: Ron and Caitlin reported that they are following up on advice from Dan Fitzpatrick to draft new Bylaws language defining membership and redefining the Annual Meeting quorum requirement in terms of only the members paying dues annually. Life Members will retain the rights to attend and vote in Annual Meetings but the number needed for a quorum will be a percentage of only annually-paying members. They agreed to submit language for Board review by the January retreat.
- Facilities: Current issues were addressed during Cathy Stackpole's Management Report.
- Development/Philanthropy/Stewardship (Barbara, Marty, Jessie, Pam and Cathy):
 - Cathy had previously reported on the team concept for targeted support of improvements to Rowland and the lists she had distributed for the Directors to use for outreach appeals.
 - Four students from the Tuck School of Business offered an overview, including written outlines, of their research project focusing on FBPA. The students promised to share with the Board the final report.
- Nominating Committee: Kathleen Dziadzio reported on behalf of the Committee. She reported that Cyd Melcher continues work on materials to be used for orienting incoming members on the Board of Directors. Kathleen stated that the Committee continues to seek new members.

* **Executive Session:** At 1:00 p.m. it was moved by Doug and seconded by Caitlin, and approved unanimously, to move the meeting into Executive Session. Thereafter, at 1:11 p.m. it was moved by Caitlin and seconded by Doug, and approved unanimously, to conclude the Executive Session

* **Adjournment** was moved and approved at 1:18 p.m.