



Ferry Beach Park Association

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MINUTES

FBPA Board meeting of October 24, 2021

Meeting via Zoom

(Minutes prepared by Bd. Secy. Ron Willett)

Participants: Executive Director Cathy Stackpole, Board President Marty Burgess, Vice President Caitlin Peale Sloan, Secretary Ron Willett, Treasurer Doug Atkins, and Directors Meghan Chan, Dee Wilbur, Richard Plumb, Pamela Emery, Kathleen Dziadzio and Doug Edwards.

Board President Marty Burgess called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

* Covenant – Ron Willett read a section of the Board Covenant: *“A commitment to embody and develop leadership in promoting values of radical hospitality, beginning with the hospitality of our universalist traditions as we host and welcome guests and visitors to Ferry Beach facilities and events. We acknowledge this hospitality to be a welcoming of the stranger - the other - and that this other may be a human being, a group or an idea.”*

* Marty proceeded with review of the **Agenda** prepared in advance and made available.

* **Consent Agenda:** Today’s Agenda included a with the following items:

* Minutes from Board meeting of July 17, 2021.

Approval of the Consent Agenda was moved by Doug A. and seconded by Doug E., motion approved unanimously.

* **New Business:**

- **President’s report:** Marty reported that he will be meeting with Cathy and Deb on Nov. 3 to discuss plans and agenda for the annual Board retreat January 28-30. He encouraged all the Directors to consider items and matters desired for the retreat and notify him before Nov. 3 with any requests.

Ron offered a reminder to secure lodging, if needed, for the retreat weekend.

- **Finance:** Doug Aktins offered a few comments on the financial report that was included in materials for this meeting, joined by Cathy Stackpole in noting the percentages of income and expenses in comparison to budget and 2020 figures.

Richard asked about year-to-date information on the endowment fund, and Doug responded that he can get that info to Richard separately.

- Exec Director's report (Cathy Stackpole):

Gratitude: Cathy expressed heartfelt thanks to the Directors for the support and staff assistance during the past year, especially over the summer conference season. I

General: program, personnel, etc: Cathy noted the various areas in which progress toward goals and improvements has been interrupted by the challenges of the pandemic, from the school relocation transition to software migration staff turnover and shortages - like a room tossed by a tornado, with all the pieces still around, but not in the right place.

Facilities

- Insulation of Rowland complete! This winter will offer opportunities to determine Rowland's readiness for winter gatherings.
- Contract for pests back in place after an infestation in a Metz cabin in September;
- Maintenance staff is excellent: Cathy praised the work of the new maintenance staffer Dave D.

Program

- Summer 70% of normal (long season with Buddhists in September)
- Need to rebuild online programming in winter
- Some small retreats possible, now in planning:
 - NPO group
 - Locals for day long
 - Dance group a maybe
- Groups seem to remain reticent to commit to dates for indoor event due to moving conditions of the Covid variants
- Small events and outdoor events a possibility

Food Service

- Food pricing increases – Cathy noted that the across-the-board increases in food and supplies is a genuine challenge
- Take out: Cathy reported that Jason is preparing to resume the weekend take-out service that was popular last year.
- Other ideas: Pam asked about the possible resumption of community (local) dinners, and Cathy replied that there is some consideration of that. Some discussion focused on local groups such as Age Friendly Saco.

- Policy Review: Ron reported on the recent review of a list of policy statements he had collected from the Board and Board Annex folders in the Google Drive. He stated that the review was intended primarily as an informational exercise to familiarize all Directors of management policies posted there, some of which had been reviewed and approved by the Board at the time they were drafted by the Exec. Director.

Ron noted that he has just emailed to the Directors his proposal for revision of the "Personnel Policy Regarding Impartiality and Fairness" that the Board adopted in 2016, with his revision centered on specific language addressing Directors' non-involvement in personnel

matters. He suggested that the Directors review and consider the proposal for final discussion and action at the January retreat.

- Committees/task forces

Nominating Committee: Kathleen D. noted that shortly before this meeting she emailed to Cathy and the Directors an updated NomComm report that included the following information:

“We have a committee! Only three but it is a start. Thanks to Meghan & Cathy for assisting in finding people.

Ruth Kempt, Ken Anderson and Phil Kinsler have agreed to join the committee. We meet next on November 5th with the hopes of getting suggestions of new potential board members.

I have reached out to Marty, Caitlin and Richard about returning to their positions. So far, Marty and Richard have both responded in the affirmative.

Philanthropy/stewardship: Dee and Meghan reported on the upcoming **online auction**, noting that the number of items offered so far is below hopes and expectations, so efforts are under way to secure more auction items.

Dee noted that some Directors have approached businesses for donation of gift cards or other gifts with hopes that this will be proactive.

Both Dee and Meghan encouraged the Directors to review the list – posted in the 2021 Auction Folder in the Drive - of potential business for gift card donations and/or to consider other items for the auction. There was brief discussion about some of the interesting items offered so far.

It was noted that the auction will go live online one week before the Nov. 13 auction event, which will be an online event with nothing happening on campus.

Adjournment: At 8:31 p.m. it was duly moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting.