

**Friends of Silverwood Park
Minutes
November 18, 2013**

Present: Katie Vance-Whitten, Kyle Richmond, Josh Bartz, Donna Skau, Bill Warner, Corey Livieri, Cindy Kirby, Kirsten Almo, Joe Mingle, Thad Andrews, Ruth Simpson, Rick Reese,
Absent: None
Guests: None

I. Check Ins and Welcomes

- ≡ Katie Vance-Whitten convened and called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. at the Albion Town Hall meeting room, 624 Albion Road, Edgerton, Wisconsin.
- ≡ Everyone present individually checked-in.

II. Approval of minutes from September 16, 2013 and October 21, 2013

- ≡ Those present reviewed and approved both sets of meeting minutes as revised. (Richmond/Skau: Unanimous)

III. Announcements

- ≡ The Master Planning kick-off meeting has been tentatively scheduled for December 10, 2013 at 5:30pm at the Albion Town Hall meeting room, 624 Albion Road, Edgerton, Wisconsin. Members of the 'Friends Group' should plan to attend if possible. (Richmond)
- ≡ Tonight, the Dane County Board will be voting on the Dane County budget, including a resolution to change our funding match from 2:1 to 1:1, and also fund an LTE (Limited Term Employment) half-time Farm Coordinator Position to manage the 8 acres project work in 2014. (Richmond)
- ≡ Katie Vance-Whitten shared input from Dane County Park Planner Jim Neidhart regarding structures on the park property, greenhouse placement, and Operation Fresh Start's plans to begin working on the property, starting with the placement of a hoop-house.
- ≡ Rick Reese reported that the FFA at Edgerton High School received a \$2,000 grant from Wilbur Ellis, a chemical/seed fertilizer company. The money came via Chad Jorgeson through the company's local community impact fund.
- ≡ Rick Reese reported that Edgerton School District Administrators Dr. Dennis Pauli (Superintendent), Dr. Mark Coombs (High School Principal), Phill Klamm (Middle School Principal), and Tad Wehner (Elementary School Principal) visited Gale Woods Farm Park in Minnesota in order to better understand the potential for future work at Silverwood Park.
- ≡ Corey Livieri reported that Edgerton Middle School students have completed work on a hoop-house on the school's campus. Students will also be planting carrots later this month at Silverwood as part of a winter crop project.

IV. Old Business

- A. Review and Adoption of Bylaws for Friends of Silverwood Park
 - ≡ Ruth Simpson gave a report about the updated version of the proposed Bylaws for the Friends of Silverwood Park, including the recent suggested changes, additions, and modifications from Dane County staff and community members, which have been incorporated into the document.
 - ≡ Those present discussed the following Amendments to the proposed Bylaws document:
 - ≡ Proposed Amendment A: Concerning the Qualification of a Board Member. The addition of "A member in good standing is eligible to serve on the Board of Directors." was proposed as the first sentence of paragraph 2, in Article III, Section 1.
 - ≡ Proposed Amendment B: Concerning the length of terms for Board Members. The addition of "Following three (3) consecutive terms of office, a director will

relinquish office for no less than one (1) full year before becoming eligible for re-election to the office of director.” was proposed as the last sentence of Article III, Section 1.

≡ Proposed Amendment C: Concerning the specific objectives and purposes of the Friends of Silverwood Park. The addition of “To advise and assist Dane County (the Park Commission, Parks Division and other staff) and any non-profit entities, including local governmental entities, with the planning, development and maintenance of Silverwood Park, especially by representing various stakeholder groups and the community surrounding the park.” was proposed as objective/purpose 1, in Article I, Section 3.

≡ Proposed Amendment D: Concerning the Development and Implementation of a Master Plan. The addition of “Development and Implementation of Master plan—The Board of Directors, with the participation of the members of Friends of Silverwood Park, Inc., will advise and assist the Dane County Parks Division and the Dane County Park Commission with development and review of a Silverwood Park Master Plan within a reasonable timeframe and have a significant role in supporting its successful implementation consistent with the purpose of the Corporation as set forth in Article I, Sec. 3.” as part G of Article III, Section 11.

≡ A motion was offered to approve the proposed Bylaws as amended. Those present voted to adopt the Bylaws with the Proposed Amendments A, B, C, and D as described above. (Mingle/Warner: Unanimous)

V. New Business/Reports

A. Nominations/Volunteers for Friends of Silverwood Park Board

≡ Kyle Richmond asked all present to individually indicate whether or not they had personal interest in becoming a Friends of Silverwood Park Board Member. The following individuals indicated interest in becoming board members: Katie Vance-Whitten, Kyle Richmond, Josh Bartz, Donna Skau, Kirsten Almo, Thad Andrews, Cindy Kirby, Corey Livieri, Joe Mingle, and Bill Warner.

≡ Those present voted to approve the full slate of board members as listed directly above. (Mingle/Andrews: Unanimous)

≡ Board officer elections will be held at the first Friends of Silverwood Park Board Meeting on Wednesday December 4, 2013.

≡ Donna Skau and Kyle Richmond exited the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

B. Review of Mission, Vision, and Goal Statements

≡ Katie Vance-Whitten described the development of the current Mission, Vision, and Goals statements for the Friends of Silverwood Park group. The current version was developed during a half-day session of the Silverwood sub-committee (of the Dane County Food Council).

≡ It was generally acknowledged by those present that the statements may need revision and updating, especially in regards to the recreational aspects of the park that were not included in the statements. An update to the statements may take place as part of the Master Planning process, or work done by a sub-committee, task force or ad-hoc group charged with updating the Mission, Vision, and Goals.

≡ Please see the attached document for the language of the current version of the Mission, Vision, and Goals statements.

C. Reports

≡ Katie Vance-Whitten gave an oral treasurer’s report on behalf of Donna Skau. A checking account has been set-up at Badger Bank in Fort Atkinson Wisconsin, and a Post Office Box has also been set-up: P.O. Box 304, Edgerton, WI 53534. The Coachman’s Open House Event had 50-60 people in attendance, donations were received, and much contact information was collected.

≡ Katie Vance-Whitten briefly discussed volunteer/board recruitment and outreach efforts. An Executive Committee meeting was held on Tues. Nov 12, 2013. In addition to other business, the committee discussed potential board and advisory board possibilities. Katie Vance-Whitten reported meeting with several individuals to gage interest in joining organizational efforts. Also, a meeting with Madison College President Dr. Jack Daniels indicated there may be future partnership possibilities between Madison College and Silverwood Park.

≡ Joe Mingle gave a report on the agricultural planning meeting which took place at Edgerton High School on Wednesday November 13, 2013. The planning group identified a need for the Friends of Silverwood Park (and Dane County) to decide if for-profit projects will be rented/ leased land in order to grow cash crops. A discussion will continue regarding for-profit ventures. The group has proposed the following uses for the 8 acres of farmland to be utilized for crops in 2014:

- 2 acres for FFA expanded Pumpkin Patch Project, and Corn Maze
- 1 acre for use by Operation Fresh Start
- 1 acre for Edgerton Middle School Food Pantry Project
- Possibly 1 acre for Hmong Medicinal Herb Garden (Freedom Inc.)
- Possibly 1 acre for Salsa, Kraut, Pickle Project (revenue crop)

VI. Other

≡ A variety of issues were identified that may require attention at future board or committee meetings. The following is a list of issues raised (but not discussed): Operation Fresh Start, the Community Gardening Model, existing structures, discussion about the October 27 Open House/Mixer event, transportation/used bio-fuel bus donation, summer gardening project with Edgerton Outreach, tobacco museum items, and community invitations/notice for Master Planning meetings.

VII. Next Meeting

≡ The first Friends of Silverwood Park Board Meeting will be held Wednesday December 4, 2013, at 5:30pm at the Albion Town Hall meeting room, 624 Albion Road, Edgerton, Wisconsin.

VIII. Adjourn

≡ The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. (Mingle/Vance-Whitten)