

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the
FRIENDS of the MANCHAC GREENWAY (FMG)
1:10 PM, Monday, July 10, 2017 at the Turtle Cove Classroom, Galva, La.

In attendance were Alyson Lapuma, Alma Chasez, Lauren Brinkman, Frank Neelis, Greg Maurin, Ben Taylor and Diana Esordi (by telephone).

Chairman Frank convened the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Alma gave a treasurer's report for March–May 2017. With all deposits and expenditures accounted, the bottom line was \$3,458.21.

MINUTES ACCEPTED

- It was noted the minutes of the last meeting (5/24/17) were electronically distributed to the board with only one comment/change (a misspelling) and could be considered approved. They were formally accepted by vote.

BYLAWS

- Alma led discussion on an updated set of bylaws for FMG she produced in committee with Ben and Alyson. Clarifications/additions included how a donor would not necessarily become a voting member; only one person per organization will be allowed on the board and the organization would have essentially four layers: 1.) an Executive Committee comprising of the four Board Officers (Chair, Vice-chair, Treasurer, Secretary), 2.) a no more than 9-13 member voting Board of Directors; 3.) an Advisory Board (see Article 5 in the bylaws) that would meet in committees for various Greenway projects and 4.) a General paying Membership. A vote on adopting these bylaws could not be made without a quorum so it was decided Alma would electronically distribute copies to the board with an explanation and elaboration for an electronic yes or no vote.

INFRASTRUCTURE

– Za reported meeting with St. John Parish officials about a proposal to renovate the Ruddock Landing in a manner similar to recent work done by Tangipahoa Parish at the North Pass Landing. Though remaining fully committed to the Greenway projects, St. John must weigh other parish-wide commitments before proceeding on the Greenway. Possible private/public partnerships were discussed. It was noted that any new activity on the Greenway would be welcome as long as it conforms to the Greenway's over-all vision.

GRANTS

– Frank noted that Tangipahoa Parish has applied for a sizeable grant for striping and a rumble strips for a bike path on the shoulder of the Greenway between Joyce WMA and Pass Manchac.

- There was general discussion about possible Greenway representation in FEMA Flood Recovery planning as it pertains to tourism and the Louisiana Safe program as it pertains the Greenway's location in the Coastal Zone.

MARKETING

- Frank and Mike Esordi met with a representative of Tangipahoa Parish Tourism about plans for a new approach in marketing the parish with an emphasis on the uniqueness of the Greenway and its surrounding lakes and wetlands. New Greenway literature is being developed in collaboration with this office for publishing in the near future.

- Possible collaboration was discussed with a representative of the Louisiana Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism for including the Greenway in their Southern Swamp Trails and Byways, Louisiana Biking Trails and Routes and Discover Louisiana Paddle Trails programs. The representative also recommended the Greenway pursue constructing a trailhead.

- It was decided to buy (1000) 4" x 6" vinyl Manchac Greenway stickers.

- A request was made to print more temporary Greenway fliers until the tri-fold brochure can be completed. This is currently in production.

- Lauren delivered a report on our website and social media. Editing authority for the website is to be transferred to Lauren and the Esordis. She requested we all contribute content needed to bring the site up to speed. The Facebook site is up and running and the hits are rolling in. This also needs content for the nearly constant updating this medium demands.

EVENTS

- It was determined there is not enough time left on the calendar to successfully repeat the Hurricane of 1915 Memorial Fundraiser

- The Middendorf's Manchac Run / Walk on Saturday, November 11, 2017, however, is on schedule and the Pfeifer's have been gracious to offer a space for a tent so we can promote the Greenway. Our new banner, brochure holder and tablecloth are on the way (courtesy of Duotribe) and tent, chairs, brochures, etc. will also be ready for this and other events in the future.

- Alyson mentioned a need to research a Paypal account for events sales and other accounts receivables.

The next meeting is set for 1:00 on August 14, 2017 at the Tangipahoa Parish Planning Office on Club Deluxe Rd. in Hammond. Lauren will provide the baby.