

**FRIENDS OF SILVERWOOD PARK BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MEETING MINUTES (TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014)
ALBION TOWN HALL**

- Meeting Called to Order at 5:32 PM -

Parties Present: Katie Whitten, Corey Livieri, Josh Bartz, Rick Reese, John Steines, Michael DeGraff, Kirsten Almo

I. Announcements and Introductions

- Interim member resignation of Josh Bartz. Bartz mentioned that his ability to remain on the FOSP board was not feasible at this time. At this time, Bartz has decided that it is in his best interest to step down due to personal reasons and need to focus on health. The rest of the board was understanding of the decision and wished Bartz the best. A letter of resignation from Bartz is on file.
- President's report from Kaite Whitten.
 - Absence of Kyle Richmond due to other committee meeting.
 - There will be a tour at Silverwood with the Dane County Association Presidents on May 28th at 3:30 PM. Whitten mentioned that it would be great to have as much representation at the park as possible to show the continuing planning process.
 - It was discussed that we can explore having Edgerton School District students present to feature summer school gardening projects.

II. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- Minutes from the listed dates of January 16, February 22, March 11, and April 8, 2014 were not available at the time of the May 13th meeting.
- Interim Secretary Bartz sent out partial meeting minutes from April 8th meeting at Edgerton Library.
- As no minutes were available at the May 13th meeting, approval was not needed from the board.

III. Committee Reports

- Outreach Committee report delivered by Kirsten Almo.
 - Almo met with Kyle Richmond to draft newest newsletter to feature recent events in park development.
 - Biographies of each of the board members were requested to feature on the Silverwood Park website.
 - A discussion occurred around offering public tours at Silverwood during the summer months. It was reported that there were 20+ people at the open house sessions that requested tours. The first tour has been scheduled for June 4th at 5:00 PM, while the second tour will be on June 18th at 10:00 AM.
- Fundraising Committee report not delivered due to absence of Thad Andrews.
 - Almo mentioned \$1,000 grant still not delivered. As the check is on its way, Almo reported that she will be ordering tools for Silverwood very soon.

- Whitten reported that the Silverwood “Harvest Fest” will be held on August 23, 2014 from 1:00 – 7:00 PM.
- Organizational Committee report delivered by Katie Whitten in place of Donna Skau
 - After the filing of Silverwood’s 501c3, there is \$461.75 left in the FOSP account.
 - 501c3 in final steps before submission.
 - Whitten reported that a lawyer was brought in to advise on finishing touches of the 501c3 and Conflict of Interest Policy.
- 8 Acre Committee report delivered by Rick Reese
 - Reese mentioned that the plots for ESD, OFS, and Freedom Inc. have been laid out.
 - Piping for an irrigation system out but not yet hooked up.
 - We need to start thinking about large, lockable storage for tractor and implement delivery.
 - Dane County is supposed to be turning on water this week at the park.
 - Dane County is contacting Diggers Hotline and county staff so OFS can bury the water line.
 - The planting of pumpkins will occur on the ESD section of the 8 acres, but bringing out elementary students is still questionable for next fall. No transportation funds have been secured to get elementary students to the park next fall.
 - ESD has planted a little, OFS has not planted, and Freedom Inc. has not planted.
 - After the constant rain earlier in the week, some of the 8 acres may need to be re-disked.
- Master Plan Tracking report delivered by John Steines in place of Kyle Richmond
 - The plan FOSP developed at the April meeting was presented to the county.
 - County reported: Programs must meet needs of all audiences (schools, general public, and job training) and multiple land layouts need to be presented to county.
 - Steines reported that it is critical for FOSP Board to make proposals to tell county which way to steer in the master planning process.

IV. Other Reports

- Edgerton School District report from Corey Livieri
 - Livieri reported on the ESD summer school numbers. As of now, there are 25 middle school students signed up to farm at Silverwood starting on June 16th. Summer school will run for three weeks until early July.
 - At the moment, some kinks are still being worked out concerning transpiration of students to and from the park.
- Operation Fresh Start report from Michael DeGraff
 - OFS crews are currently working with Jim Neidhardt to open up the trails at Silverwood. These trails are being cleared to make more accessibility for activities such as cross-country skiing. Many of the northern trails are

- being prepared for ESD's "Freshman Summit" where students will help clear invasive plants.
 - DeGraff said that OFS will be moving forward on the farming aspect of their work very soon.
 - DeGraff posed a couple of questions: 1.) Can we use and store manure from Katie Whitten's property at Silverwood, and 2.) What food safety policy will we follow at the park?
- Monthly County Meeting report from Katie Whitten
 - Mid-States wants some form of recognition for the discount on the lease of equipment to Silverwood for the summer months.
 - Liability document from the county will be tracked down soon.

V. Brainstorm Session: Use of Existing Buildings

- Wash Station
 - One is still needed for summer crops
 - Still discussing the use of the inside of the second generation corncrib
- Caretaker's House
 - Various parties have mentioned different possible uses for the house
 - Repairs could be costly due to asbestos and other toxic materials used in the house.
 - The board needs to have more information on costs. Will it be cost efficient to update the house or start over from scratch?
 - FOSP will set up group tour of the house in June with proper professionals to figure out possible renovation costs.
- First Generation Corncrib
 - Long structure by the main house
 - Steines suggested researching whether this structure can be preserved for historical significance.
- Third Generation Corncribs
 - Steines suggested that these can be used for various art projects.
 - An idea also was proposed to use some of these structures to preserve bat population on the property.
- Heritage Area Proposal
 - To open up more agricultural land, Rick Reese proposed a "heritage area" on the property, dedicated to historical preservation.
 - Mentioned that third generation corncribs could be moved to rear of property by old silos as a preservation area for visitors.
 - Reese stressed that if we don't take away some current structures, new future structures will have to be expanded into current farmland, thus straying from agricultural components of the mission.
- Parking Lot Space
 - Should be located somewhere off Silver Lane
 - Allow smaller access with a larger overflow area for special events at the park.
- Other Buildings

- Remaining buildings will be discussed at future meetings due to time constraints.

VI. Consideration of New Board Members

- Michael McCabe
 - Spoke with Katie Whitten. Does not desire to be on the board at this time, but will lead an Educational Program Development Committee for the park. Board agreed that it was suitable to allow Michael to keep exploring educational options for the park.
- Board Application
 - Drafted by Steines and presented by Whitten.
 - Board agreed that it was a suitable model for future board members.
- Acceptance of John Steines
 - Steines was elected as the newest board member for FOSP. Michael DeGraff motioned for a vote, Kirsten Almo seconded. All yea votes with no nays or abstentions. Motion carried.

VII. Election of Permanent Officers

- A list of permanent officer possibilities was presented to the board. The list was as follows:
 - Katie Whitten as president
 - Kyle Richmond as vice president
 - Donna Skau as treasurer
 - Corey Livieri as secretary
- Vote on list of permanent officers:
 - Steines motioned for a vote, Almo seconded. All yea votes with no nays or abstentions. Motion carried.
- Vote on conflict of interest policy
 - Livieri motioned for an approval vote, Almo seconded. All yea votes with no nays or abstentions. Motion carried.

- Meeting Concluded at 7:45 PM -

Steines motioned to conclude meeting, Livieri seconded. All yea votes with no nays or abstentions. Motion carried, meeting commenced.

- Next FOSP Board Meeting -

Date: June 12, 2014

Time: Starts at 5:30 PM

Location: Albion Town Hall