

## Friends of Goodwin Forest

July 15, 2021

Meeting opened at 1:03pm with introductions made.

Present: J. Giana, B. Marshall, B. Bernard, L. Kochiss, B. Mazzaway, S. Broderick, S. Crawford, M. Rondeau, J. Olevick, L. Wenner, E. Logee-Savoie

Minutes of May 13 accepted and approved.

**Treasurer Report:** Bill reported that the budget as well as the performance are still only through March 21, due to CFPA still going through changes. He noted that the key piece of the budget is the extension of the maintainer expenses from August to December. He reported the account balance to be approximately \$31,053. He noted that the plant sale so far has brought in \$4800. Report was unanimously accepted.

**Trail Run Results:** Bill reported that this year's run was different due to the semi virtual event. There was no charge to run the course, however it did generate donations in the amount of \$420. There were 69 runners and of those 32 submitted times. Stan sent bandanas and a thank you to them. Report accepted.

**Membership update:** Jim reported that at last meeting it was discussed if we wanted to purge the list of members, who is paid up versus nonmember. Discussion ensued and it was determined to leave the list alone for now. There are 100 paid members. Some discussion took place regarding how to promote membership. Steve showed the new display for FGF that is for use for promotional local events. Report accepted.

**Social media/marketing/e-newsletter:** Lynn sent in a report stating that the newsletter was sent out and another one needs to go out in September. She noted she needs articles for the blog and that Facebook has a large following. Report accepted.

**Garden report:** Emily reported that she applied for grant monies through the CMG program in the amount of \$350, for the restructuring of the museum garden. She will be notified in August. Plant sale is ongoing. Report accepted.

**CFPA news:** Eric is at the capital. No report.

**DEEP news:** Matt is away at a fire assignment. Beth noted there are a lot of staff retiring (47%), one specifically, Ed. McGuire. Report accepted.

**Directors' report:** Beth reported that CFPA gave more grant monies for the Windham School program. The house siding is complete, except for one small corner. The next step is TBA. She reported that the positions currently occupied by Meg, Warren and Mike were funded by DEEP via the Goodwin Trust will not be funded by the Passport to Parks. She noted that DEEPS goals support upgrades for the center. She reported that the pocket trail maps are available. She noted that the Master woodlander program taking place in August has 40 entrants. She also

reported that she is not under a PSA yet, but it is in the AG's office. A question came up regarding security at the center and it was decided that the Friends could look into purchasing a security camera. Report accepted.

the sizes were limited, but they are slowly increasing the amount allowed. She noted that the rain has played a part in less attendance. She reported that the garden signs are up. She is looking for volunteers for programs. Report accepted.

**Physical plant & maintenance:** Jim reported for Mike. He noted Goodwin is looking for woodchips and compost. The Eagle scout project of the bird blind is complete. Because of the rain there has been an exceptional amount of mowing needed to be done. Report accepted.

At this time Jim reported that Mansfield is unable to help with defraying the cost of the maintainer for August through December. Discussion ensued. A proposal was made to extend the maintainer position from August through December at a cost of \$5,600. ( It is the treasurers' perspective that we cannot continue to fund this position, and all agreed that the Friend's need to redouble their efforts to make the maintainer position a full-time position.) A motion was passed to fund the maintainer position through the end of the year and any further monies must be approved by the membership. Passed unanimously. Beth noted that there is support from the Deputy Commissioner for a full-time maintainer and that Eric is a good source for guidance for building a strategy. Steve will reach out to Matt, Eric and Laurie to develop a strategy for a full-time maintainer.

**Trails report:** Bob reported that due to the recent rainfall, there has been an uptake in brush growth and wet areas that needed to be addressed. The clean up of windfall continues. He noted that when the RTP funding becomes available, it will be helpful. He reported that the AQHA monies are not available.

**Goodwin trust update:** Jim gave a report on what he knows and will be getting more information in the future.

**Other:** It was decided to have an Open House at 6:30pm on September 17, 2021.

**Next meeting is on September 14, 2021 at Goodwin at 1pm.** Meeting adjourned at 3:16pm.

Respectfully submitted by Emily Logee-Savoie