

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING START TIME: 7:30 a.m.
MEETING END TIME: 9:04 a.m.

PRESENT: Fran Formanek, Dr. Carl Miller, Katie Bakke, Kerstin Boudreau, Martha Tymeson, Steve Carlyon, Mike Swinghamer, Carissa Pagel-Smith, Adam Weissenberger, Jane Schwartzhoff, Amy Hendrickson (on phone)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30AM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Last month's minutes were approved unanimously.

OPENING COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT FORMANEK

Fran stressed the importance of a strong turnout for the October 4, 2018, Facilities and Personnel Committee Meeting. At this meeting the Trane Park group will have 15 minutes to speak in support of the project. Steve emphasized that this is a budget meeting, not a meeting about particular projects. Fran went over a list of people he would like to have speak on behalf of Trane Park, including representatives from La Crosse County Human Services, Chileda, Altra, Apriv, Gundersen & Mayo.

We would have 15 minutes for people to speak in favor of Trane Park. Fran wants to be sure all reps speaking are addressing different areas so the committee is not hearing the same info from each person. Fran suggested that those who attend could wear Trane Park t-shirts to visually make a statement, and stressed that it's important for all who attend to sign in to the book so their name/support becomes part of the public record.

Martha brought up that it is important to mention that last year the money that was allocated for Trane Park was shifted for a stormwater project, and that we have already been put on hold a year. Martha also suggested that is important to bring up the fact that many professionals in the area have been consulted in the programming phase of this park, and these ideas are included in the design.

Steve also stressed that the supporters iterate that this project is important to the region, not simply a neighborhood or city.

It would be beneficial for our board members to contact council members in support of this project – be as vocal as possible leading up to this October 4 meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Adam brought up his concern about not raising enough money to complete the project and the park is only partially done. Brief discussion of this matter, with Steve adding that if the project start is delayed, it will delay additional funding coming in. Steve said he will work on "cleaning up" our budget so as to more accurately reflect the monies this board has available at this point.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Equipment:

- Mike reviewed images showing the park in phases, and discussed the design of particular areas.
- Olympic was the low bidder for the recent construction bids. The bids came in pretty close to what was expected, and all were very tight, so Mike feels the bids are accurate.
- The parking lot will most likely be re-bid in October.

Fundraising:

- Fran and Katie are presenting to a local PEO group October 2, 2018, to ask for support.

- CAPX2020 funds are available to match up to \$100,000, and the Town of Shelby has agreed to donate \$5,000 to the project, according to Fran. He said other villages/townships have declined to contribute.
- Steve said he is working to try to get the County to change the requirements for the CAPX2020 funds so they will match even if the donors are private, non-profit, or otherwise, not simply municipal entities.
- Another golf outing will be held next year on August 16, 2019. Fran and Carl will organize the event.

Marketing:

- Photo gallery on the website
- New set of donation ads has been created to give a fresh take on the project
- New fact sheets have been generated, but Kerstin said after this meeting she will update those
- The email list needs to be weeded out
- Minutes and agendas are now available on the website
- There will be a big push to promote attendance/support at the F+P Meeting October 4, 2018.
- We need a template for emails to be easily sent to council in support of this project
- We should draft a letter that is to be signed by all the Trane Park Board members and sent to council before the October 4 meeting.

Grants:

- Martha is pulling together information on our donations so she can submit to the Dahl Foundation for a grant. The board reviewed her list of donors, and some additions were made. Martha will submit this by October 1, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

Bids for Parking Lot & Building: Bids came in for parking lot and building. See info above for details.

Terminology for Interview: Tabled until October meeting.

Naming the Park: Tabled until October meeting.

Re-engaging Members: Tabled until October meeting.

Diversifying Executive Board: Tabled until October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Adding a Grant Writer: It was moved and approved to hire a new grant writer to assist Martha and Adam in the pursuit of grants as there are so many that we could go after.

Groundbreaking: The importance of a media event to promote the project was discussed. Steve said it's important to have the ceremony on October 3rd so that the media covers it and there's a newspaper presence on Thursday morning, October 4, the day of the F+P meeting. A motion was moved and approved to hold the groundbreaking ceremony October 3, 2018.

The following people will most likely be asked to attend the ceremony:

- Mayor Tim Kabbat
- Steve Carlyon
- La Crosse Autism Foundation

- Down Syndrome
- Jack Peplinski, Altra
- Martin Gaul, Council President
- Amy Hendrickson and her son
- Trane Company representative
- Senator Jennifer Shilling
- Representative Jill Billings

Next meeting is October 17 @ 7:30am at River Architects.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 am.

Meeting notes by: Jane Schwartzhoff, River Architects