

Fair Hill Nature Center Board of Directors Meeting of Feb.17,1999

Attendees: J.Campbell, K.Phillips, H.Hannum, J.Newman, L.Klevans, R.Carroll, J.Hendricks, D.Clower, S.Doordan. K.Aspinwall

Guests: R.Young, D.Harrington, S.Barkafski

Meeting called to order at 7:03PM by President Campbell.

Order of Business:

1. Previous months minutes were reviewed. Motion was made to accept them as submitted. Motion was seconded and approved.
2. The financial report was given by Larry Klevans. Two statements were submitted:  
a) the January statement was the usual spreadsheet prepared by our accountant. b) the statement for February was prepared using the new Quick Books software. All subsequent statements will be prepared by our staff using the Quick Books software.
3. Larry suggested that the Nature Center obtain a credit card for the staff to use for purchasing operating supplies. A credit card would make these transaction easier and timelier for the staff. Jerry Hendricks made a motion to obtain a Credit card from MBNA with a \$600.00 limit for use by the staff. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Larry took the action for this task.
4. Dennis introduced Debbie Harrington to the Board. Debbie is interested in the Nature School and working with us.
5. Jim introduced Ralph Young to the new members of the Board. Ralph was one of the founding members of the Fair Hill Foundation. He has been volunteering some of his time to help out with special projects. He has been restoring the Marsh. Inlet water to the marsh has been restored to a level that will keep the marsh intact. He stated that the water level is at a three year high. He has arranged with the state to procure and install a solar powered pump to take water from the Elk Creek and pump it to our marsh when the inlet water supply is inadequate to keep it at required levels.
6. Report of decisions made at this months planning meeting in regards to this years Walk for Fair Hill was given. Sylvia will handle the publicity for this event. Jerry reported that all chairs of committees are filled. Dennis has sent out letters to past sponsors to solicit for their support. He suggested that we charge \$500.00 for new major sponsors and \$400.00 for renewals. Secondary or route sponsors will be charged \$50.00 for renewals and \$60.00 for new ones. Motion was made, seconded and approved for these suggested fees. Mel and Ed will handle rounding up bikers and horse people for this event.
7. Holly gave a school report. The Outreach Program is being given at this time. The Outdoor School will start March 15th. Spring classes are scheduled. There are only a few openings for private and out of county schools. She was contacted by a Mr. Fred Mueller, of the Elk Creek Watershed Organization. He would like to know more about our organization to see if there is any synergy between our groups. Holly took the action to contact him.
8. County Commissioner Nelson Bolender has requested that we submit to the Cecil County Commissioners our request for assistance money. It was suggested that we request \$10,000.00 from them for teacher's salaries. Karen took the action to write this letter the week of February 22nd.

Susan reviewed her draft proposal for "Fall at Fair Hill" events.(see attachment). Tentative date is October 16th. Susan's daughter has volunteered to do the artwork for us(ie.invitations and brochures). Karen mentioned that our insurance coverage would not handle this. Karen took the action to see what coverage would cost us for this event. Jim took the action to contact Ed Walls about the availability of the barn for the Fox Trot dance. Ralph suggested that we contact the County Comm.'s about underwriting this event.

10. Jerry Newman reported that Helena has scheduled Nature Center presentations with three non-profit organizations. Volunteer presenters for these were requested. Jerry asked the status of our United Way application. Karen said that she will be working on this in March.

11. Jerry Hendricks reported that the next Rt273 clean up is scheduled for April 17th at 8:00am. Volunteers should park at Wesley's Restaurant.

12. Dennis asked if he could offer the sponsors a two for one price if they support the spring and fall event. Motion was made, seconded and approved to allow him to pursue this idea.

Next planning meeting will be held March 3rd at 7:00 PM at the Chamber of Commerce office on North St. A March for Parks chairmen planning meeting will be held at 6:00PM prior to the planning meeting.

Meeting adjourned by J.Campbell at 8:55PM.