



## **GRANTS/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday, Aug 26, 2022 8:30 A.M.**  
(meeting held at Park Office and via Zoom)

### **MEETING NOTES**

Meeting called to order at 8:41 am

Roll Call: Mike Selig, Dave Wehner, Mark Robeson

#### **Introductions:**

Individuals present: Mike Selig, Dave Wehner, Mark Robeson, Anita Gantner, Lynn Richardson, Judy Bowman, John Piepsny, Pat Norris, Marcia Whelan, Corey Ringle, Meg Slifcak, Susan Czaplicki,

#### **Review of Previous Action steps:**

##### **Fundraising meeting update – Mike Selig**

Fundraising meeting held with Mike Selig, Anita Gantner, Cynthia McWilliams and Debbie Williams to discuss opportunities for collaboration for fundraising efforts on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Discussed the idea of creating an endowment fund through the Akron Community Foundation as well as the idea of an annual giving campaign. Debbie made online introductions to Brian Reitz of the ACF. Minimum initial endowment would be \$5,000. Debbie and Cynthia provided an update on the Centennial celebration being planned for this fall. Mike Selig to forward the Akron Community Foundation endowment fund material to the group for review and will revisit at next meeting.

Brought up previously discussed email from Shari Green about including some links to our website for things like "Donate", "Volunteer", and "Membership" Email forwarded to Marketing team for further input. Mark indicated that it is still working through this possibility.

##### **Baldwin Wallace University student volunteer update - Mike Selig**

Baldwin Wallace Jacket Philanthropy Program – applied to be a partner organization, would allow for 4 students to practice grant writing with \$5,000 in grants being awarded by the program every semester. We were not selected for the Fall of 2022 but could reapply (in October) for similar opportunities in Spring 2023. Group agreed that we should plan on reapplying and that with the completion of the strategic plan we may be a better group to partner with.

##### **Friends donation acceptance policy – Lynn Richardson**

Discussed recent changes made to donation policy and that would allow for donation of funds not designated for current fundraising campaigns (Mill, Historic home restoration, invasive species) to the RJRD provided the funds had a designated purpose, could not be used for historic home demolition, and

RJRD provided documentation of use of these funds for the specific purpose. Group discussed the need for those requirements and Lynn explained the inability to put funds into the general fund. Discussed the idea of creating a different line item on the budget that would be more general and would allow for these sorts of donations to be placed here rather than in the general fund. Group decided that additional review and discussion of donation acceptance policy was warranted so that both groups felt comfortable with the donation process.

#### **Land and Water Conservation Fund - MikeSelig**

Previous discussion was that given the \$50,000 minimum grant allocation and 50% matching requirement feel that the connector path from Broadview Rd to the rest of the park would be the best fit as group felt that much of the labor involved in creating the trail could be used towards the matching requirement. Group agreed that we are still evaluating whether this grant would be worth pursuing. Actions steps for this grant will include:

- Reached out to village of Richfield about cost of trail behind the library. Mike Selig reached out to Brian Frantz (Richfield village zoning board director) and he will provide those documents. Mike to forward onto group once received.
- Discussed idea of utilizing the Ohio Operating engineering group about potential volunteering their services for this project with Jeff Deluca. Jeff would prefer to wait to approach them until we are more committed to the project.
- Discussed idea of reviewing report from Andrea Ireland regarding front entrance improvements and whether this should be included in the grant as well. Some reporting occurred at the July strategic planning meeting although did not appear to be focused on front entrance. Mike Selig to reach out to Andrea Ireland and Jeff Deluca to get their thoughts on front entrance improvements.

#### **Donor Plaque discussion – All**

Discussed the idea of a plaque to recognize prior donors who donated funds to Kirby's mill restoration. Last board meeting agreed that a plaque was warranted and that should be located somewhere in the park. Group consensus was that it should be at or around Kirby's mill given that was what the funds were raised for. Dave Wehner asked about possible designs/size and Corey Ringle offered to create some options to be able to review. Agreed upon parameters were that it should be a plaque, should be outside, and should be able to display approximately 100 donor names. Possible ideas for location included on the side of Kirby's mill, on a sign posted adjacent to Kirby's mill, or in the parking area by Kirby's mill.

#### **Minutes**

##### **Old Business**

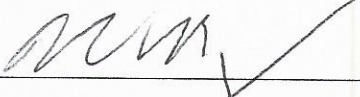
Nature Works grant update – grant submitted; amount requested brought down from 75K to just over 61K. Hope to find out this fall.

##### **New Business**

##### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Dave Wehner, seconded by Mike Selig. Meeting adjourned at 9:34am.

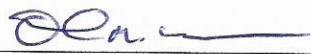
Submitted By:



Mike Selig, Committee Chair

Date: 03/JAN/23

Accepted By:



Dave Wehner, Committee Member

Date: 1.24.23



