



MINUTES — September 25, 2023

Grand Prairie Friends Board Meeting

Monday, September 25, 2023

United Way Office, 5 Dunlap Ct., Savoy, IL

Submitted by: Valerie Sivicek

Attendees: Tom White, Valerie Sivicek, Fred Delcomyn, Pam Leiter, Craig Milling, Mark Sheldon, Ed Wilhite, Collin Carlier (remote via Zoom); absent: North Joffe-Nelson, Dave Easter

Staff: Sarah Livesay (Executive Director), Jeff Peyton (Natural Areas Manager, joined meeting at 6 pm), Sarah Zoppa (Community Engagement Coordinator, remote via Zoom)

Guests: Beverly Foote, Karen Andsager

Quorum? Yes

Call to Order: 5:35 pm

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Rattlesnake Master Run for the Prairie registration information
2. List of donors with donation amounts for period August 2023

CONSENT AGENDA

The reports of the President; Staff; GPF Properties Research Coordinator; Accreditation Committee; Bylaws Committee; Greenhouse Committee; Conservation Cemetery Committee; Professional Development Committee; Nomination Committee; Volunteer Committee; Stewardship Committee; Land Acquisition Committee; Blazing Star Society Committee; Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Committee; and Finance Committee, as well as the minutes of the last board meeting (08/28/23), were submitted separately as a consent agenda item. Ed moved to accept the reports as submitted. Mark seconded. MOTION APPROVED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS: Ed shared an update on Rattlesnake Master planning: sponsors are lined up, and t-shirts and emails are coming soon.

DISCUSSION

Grant Management Policy Review: Pam and Ed will discuss and edit the Grant Management Policy document and return proposed changes to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Reminder: Board Member Elections/Membership Meeting Saturday, Oct 7 @ 3pm

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fred moved to approve the August 2023 Financial Statements as presented. Valerie seconded. MOTION APPROVED.
2. Ed moved to accept revised Investment and Management of Financial Assets Policy. Fred

seconded. The Board discussed the proposed policy document. Fred recommended the document return to committee for edits. Fred moved to table the vote on the revised policy. Mark seconded. MOTION APPROVED.

3. Mark moved to accept the GPF General Endowment Fund Agreement. Tom seconded. The Board discussed the proposed policy document. The Finance Committee recommended against approving the document at this time, pending additional legal counsel. Ed moved to table the vote to accept the policy. Fred seconded. MOTION APPROVED.
4. Tom moved to accept IL Department of Natural Resources Natural Areas Stewardship reimbursable grant in the amount of \$92,817.88 through period 8/31/2025. GPF will provide match amount of \$5,004.80 (value) via in-kind volunteer hours. Colin seconded. MOTION APPROVED.
5. Craig moved to accept Volunteer Steward Network reimbursable grant not to exceed \$1,000 (no match requirement). Ed seconded. MOTION APPROVED.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sarah L presented Board Job Description/Duties/Legal Obligations agreement and Board application.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS/MEETINGS

(Dates with no description are Board meetings.)

October 7 – 3 pm Fall Membership meeting @Champaign Library

October 23

November 5 Rattlesnake Master Run for the Prairie @Meadowbrook Park

November 27

December 18

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.