

# **Friends of the GTM NERR**

## **Minutes of Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 9, 2008**

### **Members Present:**

**Pierre Pierce, Anita Pierce, Bill Coleman, Jonathan Katzen, Peter Difatta, Triss Padgett, Carl Hampp, Kevin Faver, Irene Kaufman, Chris Rich, Kay Henderson,**

### **Staff Present:**

Teri Webley, Mike Shirley, Janet Zimmerman, Linda Krepp, Marty Healy

### **Excused Absence:**

Nancy Schachnovsky, Rob Matthews, Mike Timpane

### **Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by Pierre Pierce**

### **November Meeting Minutes Approval by Pierre Pierce**

Jonathan motioned to approve the November meeting minutes  
Bill seconded, all approved none objected, November meeting minutes approved.

### **Ad Hoc Committee Report by Peter Difatta**

Peter distributed the findings of the committee assembled to address the issues raised at the annual meeting.

Peter read the Ad Hoc committee report (attachment 1)

Mike S said that he approves of the effort of the committee and the finding that some of the members of the Friends of the GTM Reserve feel taken for granted.

To improve accessibility to Board meeting minutes Irene will remove the need to use a password to gain access on the Friends website.

The annual report may also be made available on the website.

Jonathan addressed the need to bridge the gap between the Board and the Friends general membership. He suggested that some hands on activities targeted for Friends members would create a sense of pride and connection with the Friends of the GTM Reserve group.

Mike S said that Linda H and Wendy would work together to develop and put into place activities for the Friends of the GTM Reserve general membership.

Peter suggested that a letter be sent to the Friends of the GTM Reserve general membership quarterly.

The quarterly letter will be written as stated below.

Harry would supply the info on Friends' Petty Cash spending to Teri who would, along with other board authorized spending, forward it all to Chris Rich. It would be on everything spent using Friends money. The communication committee would decide what had PR value and compose an email on that only. Chris of that committee has agreed to coordinate this. It would be under the president's name.

Teri would be responsible for sending it out. (As presented for inclusion in these minutes by the Ad Hoc committee)

There was a suggestion that there be a threshold for reporting on the monthly report. The amount suggested was Teri reports all approved expenses over \$250 in her summarization of the Board meeting minutes.

The Right Whale announcement and call for volunteers that Teri sent to the Friends of the GTM Reserve general membership was sited as a good example of involving and informing the general membership.

An annual report will be developed for distribution to the Friends of the GTM Reserve general membership following the annual meeting.

The financial report component will have to wait until the tax return is complete. This will either delay the annual report or the financial report will lag 1 year behind on each annual report.

### **Civic Roundtable Update by Pierre Pierce**

The Civic Roundtable meets the first Monday of each month.

The canning company on US1 has been approved to expand its capacity. The canning company is essentially a foundry and there is some concern about the impact the expansion will have on Moses Creek.

Pierre's question for Mike S was if the programs and protections of the GTM NERR protect that part of Moses Creek.

Mike S gave a brief overview of the boundaries of the GTM NERR and invited anyone interested to attend his presentation following this Board meeting

### **RC/SC Conference Bid by Janet Zimmerman**

Janet explained that the Friends had not submitted a bid for the closed bidding portion of the project. The only bid submitted was rejected by the state because it was approximately \$100,000, which made it \$40,000 over the state budget for the conference.

The state will now use a purchase order system for the conference. The conference will be split into 3 purchase orders.

- 1) Conference and Lodging paid directly to the hotel selected for the conference.
- 2) Conference Services – Per Diem, conference supplies, entertainment, transportation, etc – this will be paid to the Friends of the GTM Reserve if they decide to provide these services.

- 3) Travel to and from the conference. There is a problem that will prevent the state from paying this directly to the travel agent selected to make travel arrangements to and from the conference. The Friends of the GTM Reserve are being asked to provide payment for the travel expenses as laid out by the state to the travel agent. The Friends of the GTM Reserve would be reimbursed for the payments to the travel agent by the state.

Janet asked if the Friends of the GTM Reserve are agreeable to working with the state in the Joint Sector Conference under these guidelines.

Pierre asked if there is a budget in place for the Joint Sector Conference. Mike T, Chris, and Teri have put together a budget that falls within the states guidelines.

Mike S said that there might not be full attendance so the conference may come in under budget. The reason for some invitees not attending is that some states have imposed travel restrictions.

Carl motioned to approve:

\$19000 to \$20000 for travel to and from the Joint Sector Conference

\$17000 to \$21000 for conference services

Provisions and reimbursement as reported by Janet Zimmerman

Anita seconded, all approved.

### **Coastal Training Program by Linda Krepp**

The Coastal Training Program has a marketing DVD that will be distributed to local government, developers, and others that may benefit from the information in the DVD and help support the GTM NERR.

Linda played the DVD.

The Board is not being asked to do anything in connection with the DVD at this time.

### **Other Business**

Pierre discussed his and Carl's meeting with Guy Harvey's people on Sunday 12/7. The Guy Harvey Company has a strong focus on education. Guy may be willing to work with the GTM NERR on an event.

Mike S described his experience with the Guy Harvey group and their education Pierre will continue to work with the Guy Harvey Company in an effort to bring an educational event to the GTM NERR.

Peter asked what the result of the Holiday Artist Showcase was.

Teri told the meeting that the Showcase was not the success it was in 2007.

The event did not lose money but the gain was minimal.

Anita read the response sheets that Teri supplied to the Holiday Artist Showcase vendors on the last day of the event.

Among the suggestions were Government Officials to attend the reception, a sign at the door listing the vendors, and the suggestion on every response was more signage.

Anita and Teri spoke to the vendors and were left with the impression that several will not return if the Holiday Artist Showcase is done in 2009.

Kay Henderson asked that a financial report be presented at each Friends of the GTM Reserve Board meeting.

There was no vote.

Mike S suggested that the GTM NERR staff would prepare a list of budget requests for the year and submit them to the appropriate committee for pre approval of funds. This is expected to aid in preparation of a Friends of the GTM Reserve yearly budget.

Pierre adjourned the meeting at 6:10pm

Irene motioned to adjourn

Triss seconded all approved none opposed, meeting adjourned

List of attachments:

Attachment 1 Ad Hoc committee report

Attachment 2 Financial Report

The next Friends of the GTM Reserve Board meeting will be January 13, 2009