

DRAFT
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
of
Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC
September 14, 2021

The board of directors of Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC held an annual meeting on September 14, 2021, at 6:30pm. This meeting was held via Zoom online due to the COVID pandemic.

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the full board, were present at the meeting:

Robert Walters

Jayne Muenz

Todd Henning

Chairpersons Present:

David Jones

The following directors were absent:

None

Chairpersons absent:

None

Governance

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the March 2021 board meeting were emailed to the board prior to the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. A vote was taken and the minutes were accepted.

Filling of Vacancy – Member at Large

David Jones was present at the meeting as a volunteer At Large Member. We welcome David to our meeting and encourage any input and assistance in managing the median.

The meeting was slightly longer than normal as detail was added to discussions to give David some background on operations of the foundation.

Treasurer Report

Todd presented a financial review and reports:

- Foundation cash is \$21071
 - Includes a larger donation from Aintree of \$3000
 - Includes latest donations as of the date before the meeting
 - Higher than normal cash position due to Aintree contributions and better than expected response from current fundraising cycle
- Income is on pace to exceed budgeted contributions
- Expenses in line with budget but Todd noted the following:
 - **Postage and Delivery**
 - Higher than normal
 - Bob recently purchased stamps before price increase
 - **Annual Report Fee**
 - Higher than usual
 - \$100 Late Fee for IL AG990 report

Fundraising Status

Bob presented update on fundraising. Highlights:

- Letters mailed 9/1; added scan code and ability for online donor to pay transaction fees.
- Strong response so far; increase in online activity.
- \$535 in paypal donations (\$519.03 net after fees).
- Aintree Community Association increased donation to \$3,000 this year, typically has been \$1500
- Website updated to include donation letter, more links for online donations
- Positive comments so far; one comment for more trees
- Will consider asking donors to opt into just email contact for online donations instead of mailings during next fundraising cycle

Ongoing Business

Bob led a discussion on the following topics:

Maintenance update - Spring/Summer

- Sitarz completed shrub trimming and pruning some trees, still needs to complete remaining trees, edging beds, mulch at Dunham Rd entrance and later in the year final cleanup of beds and phased cut back of perennials
- Plantings replaced in spring seem to be doing well; continue to monitor shrubs near Highgate/Southgate that were cut back in the spring
- Annual flowers (Red Bronze-Leaf Begonias) looking good, better start compared to last year; need to evaluate watering cost at end of season. Noted that Begonias look bad after first frost and need to be taken out.
- City planted two replacement oak trees in island near Aintree, however one tree has died and will need to be replaced; dead Austrian pine removed near Chasse Circle, but stump needs to be taken out/grounded -- may need to consider supplemental watering for new trees in future. Will need to decide what type of tree and where to replace by the city.
- Reported a few incidents of brush dumping along boulevard but overall reduced

Ongoing Discussion Items

- Holiday Wreaths were discussed
 - Three (3) holiday wreaths to be placed at Dunham Rd entrance - coordinated with Aintree Community Association wreaths placed at Aintree and Squire Ln entrances - will purchase from Boy Scout Troop 13 again this year.
 - A motion was made and seconded to accept do the Holiday wreaths again. A vote was taken it was approved.
 - Todd will mail a check
- North Side parkway weed control update
 - parkway on north side of Blvd from Aintree Rd to Highgate Rd is "owned" and maintained by City
 - awaiting response from City for decision on applying weed control /fertilizer
 - Foundation may add this to Sitarz work next year if City not responsive
- Media/Public Relations efforts to maintain/raise awareness of the Foundation
 - No responses from media contacted yet
 - Jayme will continue efforts
- Professional photography for median
 - Jayme will pursue contact to get video drone footage of the median that could be used for video or pictures

New Items

- It may be time to replace one of the groves. Board should do a walkthrough of the median and select the grove that most needs replacement. Tree fund and excess donations this year are available to fund the project.

- Meeting with City should be planned
 - No meetings have been held since COVID
 - Would be good to discuss issues with new City managers
 - Would like the City to take on more watering in median
 - Foundation may want to add more to watering budget if City is not responsive

- Upgraded lighting at Dunham Rd entrance by Aintree Community Association
 - This issue is currently being discussed by Aintree
 - We may be asked to help upgrade the Dunham road lighting
 - We will discuss Aintree decision at next meeting

- Bob was contacted by a new member at large – Marti Rossdahl
 - We will include her with future email updates

There being no further business, upon a motion made and carried, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting in February or March of 2022.

Dated: September 21, 2021

Signature

Todd Henning, Treasurer / Secretary