

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
of
Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC (dba FCMF)
October 26th, 2023

The board of directors of Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC held an annual meeting on October 26th, 2023, at 6:30pm. This meeting was held at 2014 Bridle Ct.

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

Robert Walters

Todd Henning

Jayne Muenz

Chairpersons Present:

David Jones

Marti Rossdahl

The following directors were absent:

None

Chairpersons absent:

None

Governance

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the April 2023 board meeting were emailed to the board after the meeting. On April 28th Bob suggested edits which were addressed. A motion was made on April 28th and seconded to accept the minutes as written. A vote was taken and the minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer Report

Todd presented a financial review and reports:

- Financial reports have new names to better reflect nonprofit status
- Foundation cash is \$23208.22
 - Report name is now Asset List.
- YTD income and expenses seem to be on pace with previous years
 - Aintree HOA has yet to donate for the year
 - Report name is now Statement of Activities
- YTD budget amounts seem to be working
 - May want to increase Paypal Fee and next year
 - More Donors using Paypal
 - May want to increase Annual Report Fee next year
 - New expense for dba filing every 5 years
 - Will keep \$1000 for Watering of Plants as there will be many new plants next year
- New report generated to measure program efficiency ratio
 - Report name is Statement of Functional Expenses
 - 87.94% of expenditures (YTD) are for program costs
 - Expected to rise by end of year
 - Dave forwarded a website to board members that grades efficiency of 90% or greater as A+
 - Goal for FCMF is 90% or better
- Todd filed paperwork to use FCMF as a dba name
 - Was accepted by Illinois in April 2023
 - Many donors are using this on paper checks this fundraising cycle

Ongoing Business

Bob led a discussion on the following topics:

2023 Fundraising Status

- Letter mailed Sept 18th; thru 10/26 we have received \$6900 from 167 donors; Bobs impression is this is slightly lower than previous years
- Goal is 200+ donors and \$8,600
- About 25% online donations
- Aintree has not made a donation yet; Bob will reach out to them
- dba ("FCMF") is being used on checks we are receiving

Landscape Update

- A walkthrough of the median was done on September 27th with Sitarz and FCMF members. Every median island was inspected and a list of action items was

- formulated to address areas that needed additional work beyond routine maintenance.
- After walkthrough, Sitarz provided an estimate for additional work. Estimate is attached at end of minutes (page 7) and shows description of work and cost. Work includes:
 - new plantings to replace fallen tree in Aintree/Keim Trail island with mix of butterfly/pollinator friendly plants
 - flowering perennials to replace struggling plants on Aintree "hill"
 - Bob led discussion on merits of moving forward with this work
 - Marti mentioned that salt tolerance will be an important issue in struggling areas
 - Jayme had a concern that existing utility flags in areas of median may indicate work in the future and we would not want to do plantings if city was going to dig them up. Bob will check with city.
 - Todd mentioned that funding is available but next year we may need to look at cash if 2023 fundraising comes in lower than budget
 - A motion to accept Sitarz offer and move forward with all additional work was made by Todd and seconded by Jamie. A vote was held and approved unanimously by all members.

 - Bob held discussion on Tree Grove replacement project
 - City has agreed to remove two remaining crabapple trees where initial tree was removed this summer and will allow Median Foundation to plant 3 trees of our choice
 - Median Foundation will be responsible for cost of trees, installation and ongoing watering, utilizing funds set aside in our "tree grove" account
 - Sitarz provided list of replacement trees which is attached at the end of the minutes (page 8)
 - Members chose Prairiefire Clump Flowering Crabapple
 - Multi-stem flowering tree
 - Late season bloom to aid in staggering of grove blooms
 - Newer and more resistant variety than older crabapples
 - Bob estimated \$1500 - \$2000 to complete the project; Tree fund currently has \$6000
 - A motion to get a quote from Sitarz and move forward with the tree grove replacement project was made by Bob and seconded by Todd. A vote was held and approved unanimously by all members.

Facebook Update

- Jayme is monitoring the site to ensure any questions or concerns are forwarded to the board

Feasibility of tulips at front entrance

- Bob led a discussion that was continued from Spring meeting after consulting with Sitarz
- Sitarz did not recommend tulips due to the short season and timing of cutback of stem after bloom. He also mentioned that it would be difficult to not disturb the bulbs due to other plantings in the area
- Project would cost \$800
- It was mentioned that we could perhaps treat tulip planting as a community project with subsequent removal of bulbs later in season
- Members agreed we already had additional projects for the next year and we could revisit this idea for a future year project

New Items- moving the Horse Statue

- Bob received an inquiry from a donor on moving the Horse Statue from its current location to the median
- Donor was planning to lead the effort and organize the fundraising
- Bob led a discussion on the issues involved
 - Park district owns Statue
 - City owns median
 - Charitable purpose of FCMF only includes improvements to the median so for now this is beyond our scope
- If the statue is relocated in the median there are many issues to resolve
 - Will FCMF maintain the statue?
 - How will statue be protected from vandalism now that it is in a more prominent location?
 - Safety of pedestrians walking the median to view the statue which is a registered work of art
 - Who maintains liability for statue?
 - Bob suggested we amend agreement with City to specifically exclude FCMF from any liability
- Members forecasted that it would be difficult to overcome all the issues involved to actually get the statue moved
 - If organizing donor makes headway with this effort we will further refine our role in the maintenance of the statue in the median

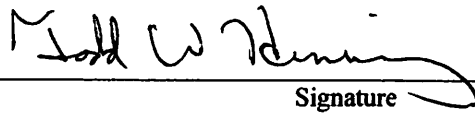
New Items- addressing inquiries for FCMF to maintain areas outside of median

- Bob and Jayme mentioned several instances of residents inquiring if FCMF could begin maintenance of non-median areas of Fox Chase
 - Shires Lane, Southgate Course, other areas
- FCMF is unfortunately unable to help in these areas since they are beyond the scope of our charitable purpose

- Our approved 501(c)(3) application for tax exempt status states “The organization’s activities consist exclusively of maintaining, beautifying, and improving the median area of Fox Chase Boulevard.”
- Section 2 of Bylaws limit our Objectives and Purpose to “activities related to improving the median area of Fox Chase Boulevard for the public benefit.”
- Section 1 of our License Agreement with the City of St Charles limits our Activities to the “Median Area”
- Bob suggested that many requests are for areas owned by the City of St Charles and that the City has the responsibility to maintain them
- Bob and Todd will produce a FAQ question for the website since this seems to be a common question

There being no further business, upon a motion made and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated: 11/5/2023



Signature

Todd Henning, Treasurer / Secretary

Items tabled for discussion or for approval at next Board Meeting

Formally Annex north parkway (city owned) and south entrance hill (park district owned)

Refine FCMF role in maintenance of Horse Statue if moved to median

Planting tulips or other bulb flower at Dunham Rd Entrance

Items from Boulevard Walkthrough with Jeff Sitarz on 9/27/2023



SITARZ
Landscape & Maintenance, Inc.

0S415 Florida Ln.
Winfield, IL 60190
(630) 653-0463

October 23, 2023

Submitted to: Fox Chase Median Association
Bob Walters
2014 Bridle Court
St. Charles, IL 60175

Fox Chase Boulevard updates:

Seed bed where Ornamental grass was removed:

5#	Grass (seed not guaranteed)	\$16.25
	Labor	35.00

Install 30 Rozanne Geraniums in Spring in first island on both sides of island
Remove 3 Penstemon, Husker Red *Beard's Tongue)

20	1 gallon Rozanne Geraniums @ \$13.60 each	272.00
1/2 yard	Compost	27.50
	Labor	150.00

Install Black-eyed Susan in island with Bloomerang Lilacs and Ornamental grass:

11	1 gallon Rudbeckia Viette's Little Lucy @ \$12.50	137.50
1/2 yard	Compost	27.50
	Labor	75.00

Seed around Elm tree near Austrian Pines 46.00

Install Coneflower Red Salsa and Stachys Hummelo on island at the top of hill with
Calamintha, and Black-eyed Susan:

15	2 gallon Coneflower, Salsa Red @ \$15.80 each	237.00
15	1 gallon Stacys Hummelo @ \$11.00 each	165.00
1 yard	Compost	55.00
	Labor	385.00

Install a few bushes missing by the transformer:

7	5 gallon Virburnum Doublefire @ \$45.00 each	315.00
	Labor	215.00

Install a new clump Flowering tree in island with transformer where Flowering Pear was
removed along with Allium Millenium:

1-6'	Red Jewel Flowering Crabapple	272.00
22	1 gallon Allium Millenium @ \$11.70 each	257.40
11	Pixie Meadow Brite @ \$13.60 each	144.60
1	yard Compost	55.00
	Labor	450.00

Potential Trees for Replacement Grove - Boulevard Walkthrough with Jeff Sitarz on 9/27/2023

Clump Flowering Crabapple
Royal Raindrop Flowering Crabapple
Japanese Lilac tree
Redbud
Cornus mas
Red Jewel Flowering Crabapple
Tri Color Beech, single stem (not flowering)

A fifty percent deposit is required with the balance due and payable upon completion of project.

This proposal may be withdrawn if not accepted within fifteen (15) days. Insurance certificates are available upon acceptance of proposal.

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL


Jeff A. Sitarz, President

Fox Chase Median Association