

**Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors**  
**of**  
**Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC**  
**September 1, 2016**

The board of directors of Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC held an annual meeting on September 1, 2016, at 6:30 PM at 2014 Bridle Court.

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

Robert Walters

Chris Naese

Todd Henning

The following directors were absent:

None

Chairpersons recognized not present):

Lynne Hepler – Communications

**Approval of Minutes**

Todd provided a copy via email to the Board members of the Minutes from prior meeting for review.

Todd asked Board if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes.

No corrections were noted, Board approved Minutes by unanimous consent.

**Treasurer Report**

Todd presented a financial review and reports. Highlights:

- Foundation cash is \$18386.65
- Donations from individuals on pace to match 2015
- Donation from Aintree (\$2000) was provided at the meeting. This donation was not included in the Financial reports

- Expenses on pace with budget with the exception of lower watering expenses.
- Going forward a separate budget item for Mulch : Labor and Mulch : Materials will be added to the budget to better track this item.
- It was agreed to firm up the 2017 budget at the Spring meeting

## **Fundraising Status**

Bob presented update on fundraising. Highlights:

- Bob noted the amount of donors this year (190) is higher than last year with a lower amount per donor.
- Bob mentioned he did not send out a second email to follow up with donors this year.

## **Ongoing Business**

Brush Dumping:

- Significant Progress has been made in this area. City is proactively contacting residents that have been identified dumping brush on the median.
- 2 residents Contacted Bob
  - One Apologized
  - One upset after being contacted because they were not dumping brush. Thought it would be better if foundation contacted him directly instead of involving city
  - It was agreed that for future brush violations in that area the Foundation will directly contact residents
- Brush dumping is the #1 complaint by Donors to the foundation.
- Foundation will continue current actions to promote compliance with brush dumping ordinance.

Landscaping Issues:

- Generally looks good
- Sitarz has not moved forward with requests we made in Spring for work. For various reasons he preferred to wait.
  - Catnip at front Entrance
  - Knock out roses
  - Geraniums around grasses
  - Chris will mention to him again to ensure work is done in fall
- Vibernum Shrubs died
  - Will need to mark for Sitarz to remove and plant grass
- Black Eye Susan (shorter variety) not doing well. 2 Options were discussed.

- Fertilize and give another year
- Remove and replace. Perhaps with Sedum.
- Chris will work with Sitarz on this
- Bridle Court Island (East Side) is partly grown over with weeds and will need replanting of grass.
- Forsythia (S curve planting) is improving. Will give another year to see if improvement continues.

Visibility issue at Highgate / Southgate:

- One Donor made a general comment asking to ensure plantings to not obstruct sightlines for drivers.
- Options discussed include:
  - Remove or relocate first 3 or 4 grasses
  - Have Sitarz trim grasses earlier in fall instead of waiting until spring
  - Monitoring situation for additional comments or more specific observations of need for action
- It was decided for the board members to drive the area in question and feedback to each and table decision until later date. Bob will also reach out to donor for more specifics.

Plantings East of Entrance:

- This important area of plantings now maintained by City instead of Park District.
- City property is within the scope of our exempt purpose.
- Thea area now has low grade plantings that are not doing well and are not appropriate for the entrance to the boulevard.
- Donor suggested we take over maintenance of this area.
- The Board was hesitant to take on the additional financial burden of maintaining the area. Bob will explore with the City some Joint Effort arrangement whereas the City could fund plantings and foundation could administer.

Mulch:

- City informed foundation that it has wood chips available but will not have shredded mulch.
- Chips will be free again.
- Board decided to go ahead and use chips this fall with Sitarz supplying labor.
- Plan is for mulching every other year. Labor estimate is \$2500-\$3200.

Christmas Wreaths:

- Chris will work on this again.
- Probably purchased through the Boy Scouts.

Directed Donation:

- A directed donation was received from Donor Palmisano in the amount of \$300 requesting a White Swamp Oak be planted on the median.
- The request was evaluated using the Directed Donation Policy. The Board voted to accept the donation as it complied with the provisions of the policy.
- Bob will contact the City to see if the request can be fulfilled using the City's 50/50 Parkway Tree Planting Program. Due to the size of the donation we will request a larger tree if available.
- Planting will be on the median S curve near Chasse Circle.

Chasse Circle signage renovation:

- City removed overgrown shrubs around sign and planted grass.
- Foundation will monitor area around sign to ensure area is properly maintained.

Discussions with City:

- Bob will explore next meeting in October or early September.

## Governance

A Directed Donation Policy was created by Todd and presented to the board in response to a Directed Donation requesting a White Swamp Oak be planted in the median near Chasse Circle. The board felt it important to ensure that formalized guidance be available to evaluate this and future requests for compliance with the foundations' 501(c)(3) status.

The Board reviewed the Policy and unanimously agreed with the provisions. The document was signed by the Board and entered into the Foundations Document Binder. A digitized copy will be made available for Bob to post to the website. The Policy and associated checklist will be required for the Foundation to accept all Directed Donations.

Review of the budget will be done in the Spring.

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

Dated: 2/18/17

  
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Signature

Todd Henning, Treasurer / Secretary