

FIPPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, August 6, 2022

10:00 am

Whyte Hall

Directors Present: Allan Baum, Alan Brodherson, Gary Clinton, Chris Mai, Charles Montorio-Archer, Nate Pinsley, Henry Robin, Russell Saray, Ed Schulhafer, Matt Tague, Jim Vandernoth.

Directors on the phone: Greg Henniger, Eric Sawyer

Directors Absent: Leland Rechis, Jay Pagano

Also Present: Karen McCutcheon (Community Manager), Joe Micheels (Facilities Manager), Dennis Murphy (Harbor Manager), Jake Tinsley (FIPPOA Member), Matt Heng Kaing (FIPPOA member)

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2022 meeting.

Motion was unanimously approved.

FIPPOA TOPICS

Roncalli Litigation

Henry Robin presented an update on the litigation, noting that the judge has requested a written submission concerning FIPPOA's financial claim.

PINES FOUNDATION TOPICS

Juneteenth Weekend

Charles Montorio-Archer reported the following:

- The 2021 and 2022 Juneteenth Celebrations successfully brought people together in meaningful discussions relevant to the Pines
- Approximately 80 people attended this year's conversation, To Pee Or Not To Pee, a panel discussion exploring the significance of public restrooms, with an emphasis in this discussion on the factors that would lead this community to undertake such a project. The practicalities and logistics of doing so were not discussed.
- There were three June Teas in the Pines, for which FIPPOA paid the DJs. Board discussion focused on the lack of credit offered to CoBE and FIPPOA in advertising for the three JuneTeas,
- CoBE will seek to clarify its working relationship with BaBEC.

Trailblazers Park Task Force

- Gary Clinton presented Allan Baum with a pair of Trailblazers Park dedicatory scissors, thanking Allan and the Pines Party Committee for their support of the Trailblazers Park project. Gary noted that Allan had provided both intellectual and financial support in the early days of Trailblazers Park.
- Gary thanked Chris Mai for his ongoing work in designing and maintaining the Trailblazers Park website, and Karen McCutcheon, Joe Micheels and Sharon Hanley for their excellent logistical support.
- The ribbon-cutting was a success by every measure. Approximately 200 people attended the event and then the reception at Henry and Bob's house. The emotional impact of the project and of the dedication were clear. The remarks of the several speakers were impactful and engaging.
- There has been substantial media coverage (previously shared with the Board), including New York Magazine, Newsday TV, W Magazine, Cool Hunting, and Curbed.
- Of the \$175,000 budgeted, approximately \$161,000 has been spent.
- The Task Force will meet soon to consider ongoing work improving the project, as well as providing support for an event that Iman LeCaire is planning for late August.
- Henry thanked the Task Force for its remarkable work, the Board for its support, and the staff for its devotion to bringing the project to fruition.
- Henry noted that Trailblazers Park has been more beautiful and impactful than we could ever have anticipated at its inception.

Pines Party

- Allan Baum reported that all Pines Party Weekend events were successful, with sold-out attendance, logistical challenges successfully mounted thanks to a resilient and flexible team (noting particularly the late-breaking challenges presented by Piping Plovers nested near the party site on the east end of the Pines, and the growing concern about Monkeypox).
- He noted that there has been an emphasis on diversity, inclusion, health, safety, and respect.
- He also noted that the Journal and the Auction have set records, cabana sales were very strong, corporate sponsorships were at a record. And the party itself was sold out (and that more than 300 additional Party tickets could have been sold had we not had to restrict sales due to the decreased size of the event),
- Allan thanked the Committee and co-chairs Randy Wilson, Jeff Staadt and Nick Ammaturo; Guy Smith, Robert Montenegro and their team, Henry Robin, Karen McCutcheon, and Joe Micheels.
- Allan announced that he and Guy Smith have agreed to continue in their roles for Pines Party 2023.
- Board discussion followed concerning how best to respond to what may be a diminishing beach, in terms of planning the physical layout, and lowering financial expectations due to a smaller-scale event.
- Henry noted that the other revenue streams in the financial success of recent years have been the Journal, corporate sponsorships, the auction, and the cabanas,
- Allan proposed that Pines Party weekend be July 21 to 23, 2023. A motion to accept those dates was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Special Events 2023

- Henry discussed special celebratory events in the past, including The Pines at 60, and the Pines Clambake in 2015. He noted that the Pines will be marking its 70th anniversary next year, and he would like to establish a committee to propose a plan.
- Nate Pinsley offered to head up the group.
- The possibility of an Activities Fair was discussed, at which Pines organizations would be invited to share information, raise awareness, and recruit members,
- This led to discussion of community calendaring beyond the Community Bulletin Board (which is limited to non-profit events) to include house parties, pop-up parties and other events,

Monkeypox

- Henry noted that in the one month since Monkeypox first came to his attention, he has engaged in extensive discussions with the Governor's Office, the NYS Health Department, Suffolk County Health Department, and Northwell Health, seeking vaccine for the Pines. He has pointed out that there is a large proportion of the Pines population who meet the criteria for early access to the vaccine.
- As a result, Northwell Health has administered three vaccine pods in the Pines and Cherry Grove, with a fourth set of appointments soon to be announced. Henry described Northwell as a great partner in this effort.

JOINT FIPPOA / PINES FOUNDATION TOPICS

Long-Term Community Planning Task Forces

- Henry reported that the three recently formed Task Forces have had meetings with the firm hired by Suffolk County officials to complete a study on all of Fire Island concerning wastewater treatment. The Task Forces also have upcoming meetings with Suzy Goldhirsch of the Fire Island Association to explore what other FI communities are doing, as well as a meeting with The Fire Island National Seashore, which completed a vulnerability study for portions of Fire Island concerning rising water levels and its impact.
- Other topics include the Boulevard, rising ground water, and the electric grid.
- The Environmental Stewardship Task Force is exploring issue related to solar energy, recycling, and composting
- FIPPOA members Jake Tinsley and Matt Heng Kaing, attending as guests, made a brief presentation on glass recycling. They provided information on a company (Glass Half Full) that sells equipment that can be used to create a sand-like material from glass bottles. They requested that FIPPOA consider the possibility of on-island recycling of glass. Henry will connect them with the Environmental Stewardship Task Force.

Fall Elections

- Gary reported that Karen has all the election material in hand and will be sending it to the mailing house shortly. The mailing house is expected to send the election mailing to members within ten days, well within the timeframe required by the By-Laws.

Office Staffing

- Henry noted that the FIPPOA Office is fully staffed.
- He requested that Board members direct any requests for assistance by any staff member through Karen McCutcheon, who has responsibility for workflow and work assignments.

Other Business

The Board had a brief discussion concerning the use of the freight dock and the passenger dock for receipt of freight and packages.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 am.