

FoCH membership meeting. May 12, 2015
held at Farnham Manor d/t construction at RHS Museum parking lot

Corey Ringle opened meeting with announcement that the RJRD expects Crowell Hilaka will transfer to them on June 3. This has been an amazing accomplishment for Richfield: In under one year's time the RJRD was voted into existence, the board was appointed & organized, they got two issues onto the ballot, ran a successful campaign, issued the bonds to pay for the purchase, and won a million dollar grant. Could this be world record for speed?

- Project to protect old beech trees reviewed. Beavers have bent some of the tree cages. We have not yet been able to get back on site to see if they have gnawed through sand paint or not.
- This Saturday AM we can check and re-set the bridge at the gas cut. The more people we have, the easier the job will be. 11 am

Acting Secretary report (Lynn Richardson): vote to approve minutes of April 26 board meeting – passed. At that meeting, support roles were defined that will allow the more visible, fun events & projects to move forward.

Membership report (Barb Starr): We have 54 paid members. Reminder that members get membership cards and either a window cling or car magnet.

Communications report (Corey): Chris is taking a break from facebook management. Rachel Oppenheimer will be handling our social media. Please send photos that she can use to FoCHsocialmedia@gmail.com. Our facebook page has 877 likes. We are on pintrest & instagram (@FriendsofCrowell_Hilaka)

Marketing report (Beth Sanderson): we are approved to begin conceptual work on 4 historic signs on the Kirby estate. Text draft and some photo options passed around. Corey has made up specs for the signposts. When we have the designs, they will be presented to FoCH board for approval and then to the RJRD board. We expect there may be some discussion & negotiation re. content. Work is progressing on new brochures and volunteer business cards.

Rummage sale will take place June 6. We can arrange pick up of items being donated. Hoping we can get permission for item drop-off at the May 24 open house.

Dick Johnson presented a draft of the rummage sale flier. Corey to find the footer text to be used and mail it to him.

Ralph McNerny has several tables we can borrow

Judy Soroczak may be able to obtain event tickets that can be raffled.

Merchandising report (Pat Boczar): beginning to research kinds of items people would like.

Bylaws report (Rob Richardson): developing an amendment proposal to handle resignation of an officer. Corey noted that Lucy Hanigosky has resigned from position as VP & from board although will continue on advisory panel. Secretary job has been split into three components, but that requires a change to bylaws. Anticipate a vote on procedure & an election by August

Corey reviewed positions available (these were listed in previous board minutes & will be posted on our website)

Recent Events: Earth Day - litter clean up, tree protection, removal of beaver dams and dead trees overhanging path by Gemini Cabin. New visitors came.

Upcoming events:

- This Saturday 11 am; Bridge re-set & monitoring trees for beaver damage
- May 24 RJRD open house- hiking
- June 6 rummage sale- we have pick up service
- Aug 2 Richfield Community Day - we should plan on setting up a booth. Last year we had mill cookies for kids to decorate

Possible events:

- Jim Kirby's birthday is Sept 28 – a good excuse for a party on-site. (if allowed)
- Flanagan's offered their barn for a second Music for the Millwheel event.

Combine concepts? General feeling was in favor of two separate events. This will take a lot of planning & volunteers.

Meeting adjourned d/t time

Meeting followed by excellent twilight tour of Farnham Manor