

# *Final Minutes*

November 9, 2017

**FBM Board Meeting 2:00 – 3:30 pm**

Hosted by *Diana Abrell – 12319 Hillcrest Dr.*

## **Attendees:**

**FBM:** Andrew Wilkinson, Chip Wilder, Jeff Peach, Chuck Staetz, and Susan Luhman

**HCC:** Susan Sanders and Diana Abrell

## **Call to Order**

President Chuck Staetz called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

**Minutes:** Jeff made a motion to accept the minutes which were emailed to the board and HCC members. Chip seconded the motion. All approved.

Diana asked if HCC members should vote since they are not official FBM board members. Chuck stated he would like the HCC committee members (those who were interested) to be FBM broad members. Some board members thought the by-laws would have to be changed. Others thought not. Chuck will research this issue.

## **Financial report:**

Chip distributed a treasurer's report that showed a balance of \$44,002.29. Thus far, FBM has spent \$4200.00 on attorney fees for the Lower Cascade Canal complaint. FBM has received \$3939.00 in donations for the Lower Cascade Canal legal fees. Chip has been tracking Lower Cascade Canal donations separately from membership funds. He pays FBM's legal fees from membership funds. Susan Sanders asked why he was not taking money from the Save Our Historic Canal (SOHC) funds. Chip thought it would be better to use the membership account which has a greater balance. Once the case is settled and all legal fees paid, he will use SOHC funds as well as the donations.

## **Lower Cascade Canal Trail:**

Susan Luhman provided a brief over review regarding action since the last meeting. See attachment A. Susan Sanders asked if Bilheimer would be present for the depositions. Susan Luhman will follow up on this. Chip, Susan Sanders, and Susan Luhman offered to provide transportation for the supporters who might need a ride to the lawyer's office. FBM wants to support these folks.

John Bilheimer wants FBM and HCC to continue to collect as many questionnaires as possible. Jeff will attempt to locate Joe Day to see if he would complete a questionnaire. John Bilheimer has encouraged FBM to write letters to The Union and other various news agencies to keep the issue in the public's eyes. After discussion, it was decided no letters will be written at this time.

FBM is waiting for Terry Mayfield to return his questionnaire. Susan Sanders asked if Bilheimer would call Terry. Susan Luhman said yes, he would but that would add to legal fees. It might be better to see if Mr. Mayfield returns the questionnaire first. If he does not, then perhaps a board member could call him.

Discussion followed about revising the position paper. Everyone agreed it was comprehensive and no changes were necessary at this time.

### **PayPal:**

Jeff and Andrew explained why FBM should continue to offer PayPal as a means to pay for membership fees and donations. The younger generation often does not use checks. PayPal is considered a convenient means of payment. Chip pointed out that PayPal took 2.94 percent plus 30 cents off each donation. That adds up. After discussing PayPal's pros and cons, it was decided that any correspondence (particularly membership renewals) should encourage people to send checks. While PayPal is still an acceptable means of payment for the convenience of our members, correspondence will inform members that PayPal takes approximately 3 percent per payment. As a nonprofit, FBM needs every penny.

### **Bear Yuba Land Trust (BYLT):**

Marty Coleman-Hunt (BYLT Executive Director) informed Susan Luhman the SOHC money has been spent on projects other than Lower Cascade Canal easements. Susan Sanders will schedule a meeting with Marty and Joe Burns (who at the time the SOHC funds were turned over to the BYLT was the president) to discuss repayment of these funds.

Shaun Clarke wants to meet with the FBM board. Board members suggested a few meet with Shaun rather than invite him to a meeting. Chuck will set up a meeting; probably won't occur until after January 2018.

### **Firewise Community:**

The goal of a Firewise community is to make the area fire safe through education and activities. Chuck named Jeff as the FBM Firewise coordinator. Jeff has been working with Joanne Drummond (Fire Safe Council) on fire safe issues; in particular to redraw the lines of the Fire Safe community to include Buckeye and Tumbling Creek/Meadow Way areas.

Residents need not do anything. Jeff will reach out to the Tumbling Creek folks to see if they want to be a part of the Firewise Community; including to invite them to join FBM.

### **Membership:**

Jeff would like for FBM members to have a sense of what their membership offers. He suggested the 2018 membership renewal letter could outline the benefits. Everyone agreed it is helpful to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with the renewal letter. Jeff, Chip, and Chuck have worked on renewal letters in the past. Diana, Susan S., and Susan L offered to assist. FBM would like to get the renewal letters out in the next couple of weeks.

Susan Sanders and Susan Luhman offered to review the renewal letter.

### **Next Meeting**

There will not be any more 2017 board meetings. The next meeting will be scheduled for January 11, 2018. The meeting place will be announced later.

### **Action Items:**

- Chuck will research the bylaws to determine what is required to increase the number of board members. If not, he will develop a proposal to merge those HCC members (who want) into FBM board members.
- Susan Luhman and Susan Sanders will review the 2018 membership letter.
- Susan Sanders will contact Marty Coleman-Hunt and Ben Burns to schedule a meeting.
- Chuck will contact Shawn Clarke about a meeting.

Chip made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jeff seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Luhman