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## Friends of Hartwood – Meeting Minutes

**June 6, 2022**

Amy Giammattei, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Allison Burgan, Amy Giammattei, Carrie Classen, Gail Scott, Betsie Mozurak, Pam Konopasek. Guests McKay Shelkey Bray and Renae Breskovich. County Members, Clarence Hopson, Patti Benaglio, and Tim Jaczesko.

Allison Burgan, Treasurer, reported the balance of the checking account was 24,841.83

Amy Giammattei led conversation on identifying new projects:

- Discussion about possibly fencing in an area in the existing Dog Park to create a small dog Park. Tim will check with the architect who is currently designing Harrison Hills Dog Park.
- Patti announced that the gift shop will be enlarged and there may be a need for new carpeting.
- Tim needs an AC!!

Conversation was then shifted to Hartwood Fest which will be held on October 22, 2022. Allison was asked to look into previous attendance numbers and ticket pricing. Tim announced that there will be no bonfires or hayrides as per Andy Baechle, Parks Director, because they pose too much of a liability. The group decided to look into other activities for the Patrons. Mike Arnold is available to play and Carrie Classen confirmed that Hartwood Restaurant would be providing dinner.

County Reports: Clarence Hopson announced there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony in July for the Sculpture Garden. Tim Jaczesko mentioned there were 72 weddings on the books for the summer and the Public Works department was quite busy. Patti Benaglio announced the Mansion is still closed.

Election of Officers:

The following slate was presented to the council and was unanimously approved:

Betsie Mozurak, Chair

Pam Konopasek, Vice Chair

Allison Burgan, Treasurer/Secretary

Meeting was adjourned 8:15 pm.

## Friends of Hartwood – Meeting Minutes

**August 1, 2022**

Chair Betsie Mozurak called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Betsie Mozurak, Amy Giammattei, Joe Downing, Carrie, Classen, Allison Burgan, Pam Konopasek, and Laura Perkosky. County members Andy Baechle, Patti Benaglio, Tim Jaczesko and Councilwoman Anita Prizio.

Allison Burgan presented the June Meeting minutes which were approved.

Allison Burgan presented the treasurers report. She explained that she went back and did a forensic audit of the check book and noticed there are 3 checks still outstanding. 1 to Hartwood Restaurant for gift cards which Carrie Classen said she would check on, and two were for the Hunt which Amy Giammattei and Patti Benaglio are looking into. The current corrected balance is 30,099.89.

County Reports:

Patti Benaglio reported they are about to film a TV show so the Mansion opening will be delayed until mid-September.

Tim Jaczesko reported the crews are very busy between the concerts, weddings, events and general maintenance.

Andy Baechle reported the Doors of the Mansion are being refinished, The Stable windows are being painted as well as the bottom of the barn. He also said the County Events department will be scaling back on the weddings so it isn't so overwhelming to the park. Andy announced that long time Assistant Director Clarence Hopson has retired and will be replaced by Andy Grove. As per Hartwood Fest Andy told the group that there would not be Hayrides, and as for the bonfire, He requested that the Friends group find a 6 foot ring with legs that can be used for both Hartwood Fest and the Guy Fawkes event. Andy then went into detail concerning the numerous noise complaints brought forward to both him and Councilwoman Prizio. The County is working on ways to reduce noise caused from weddings which is disturbing a neighboring community.

New Business

- The Council set up a meeting schedule for the 2022/23 year. It was decided to meet the first Monday of the Month. Seeing that September's first Monday would be Labor Day, it was agreed we would meet on **Tuesday September 6<sup>th</sup>**.
- Betsie Mozurak reported on the ribbon cutting for the Sculpture Garden
- Tim Jaczesko contacted the landscape architect Joel to discuss designing the small dog park enclosure area within the fence. Joel felt it could be accomplished with just some additional fence panels. The discussion of getting water to the area was then discussed.

Old Business

Hartwood Fest 10/22/22

- Allison agreed to produce a flyer for publicity. Joe Downing agreed to handle the Eventbrite ticket sales. Pam and Betsie are handling the games, and the silent Basket auction. Renae will get us the contact for the tablecloths. General discussion followed concerning prosecco for the stalls, smores bar and getting coffee from churn.

Betsy Mozurak made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm and was seconded by Amy Giammatei

Respectively submitted by Allison Burgan.

## Friends of Hartwood – Meeting Minutes

### September 6, 2022

Call to Order was made by Chair Betsie Mozurak at 7:05 pm

Members Present: Betsie Mozurak, Pam Konopasek, Allison Burgan, Joe Downing, Andy Baechle, Tim Jaczesko, Patti Benaglio, Councilwoman Anita Prizio and guest Steve Zakman.

August meeting minutes were presented but not approved due to lack of quorum (Minutes were approved on 9/7/22 via email vote)

Allison Burgan, Treasurer, reported that 3 checks for stall purchases for Hartwood Fest brought the total in the Hartwood Fund to 33,099.89.

#### County Reports:

Patty Benaglio announced the Mansion is opening for tours. Friday will be the kickoff event with a group tour for Britsburgh. Tours will only be certain days and limited. October 1<sup>st</sup> will be the Downton Abbey tea, and September 17<sup>th</sup> is the Antiques Fair at the stables. The Gift shop has been expanded and is getting ready for the Tours.

Tim Jaczesko reported the search for 4 new workers. There are a lot of events coming up and the Polo match this weekend keeps the park very busy.

Andy Baechle stated the pools had all closed the previous day. The doors of the mansion were all painted with a maintenance plan. All painting inside had been completed, the Sculpture Garden is all done and the Maintenance Building approval is nearly done with Hampton Township.

Councilwoman Prizio asked for dates of upcoming weddings as she and John Palmeri plan to meet with neighbors during one of the events to witness the noise problem. Andy Baechle explained the changes the County has made going forward with weddings; they have installed a sound system which must be used (not their own) the bass must be turned down, no live bands and the new contract ends events at 10:00 pm not 11.

#### Old Business

There is no update on the Dog Park, Andy Baechle said the County would take care of it, but, Chair Betsie Mozurak stated that FOH would very much like to help on this project, as we brought it forward. This opened a brief discussion on other projects the Friends group could work on including donating “seed” money for the restoration of the Steinway Piano.

#### Hartwood Fest:

- Joe Downing reported 39 individual tickets have been sold, and 3 stalls.
- Allison Burgan announced a BBQ Grill was seen on the Yardsale page for \$100.00, however this cannot be stored at Hartwood.

- Bonfire, Allison Burgan presented two options. The first option was for fire proof bricks to be laid out on top of a special fire mat, this option is very time consuming. The second option was a large steel bowl, for 3,327.80 with free shipping. The group liked the second choice of the steel bowl. Because of the lack of quorum, an email vote was conducted on 9/7 and the purchase of the fire bowl was approved.
- Councilwoman Prizio offered to donate the soft drinks and announced Councilman Corey O'Connor would be providing 12 dozen cookies.
- Betsie and Pam have been working diligently on Auction Baskets.
- Discussion on décor was held, with everyone agreeing to chip in and help.

Betsie Mozurak called for a motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm which was seconded by Joe Downing.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Allison Burgan

## Friends of Hartwood – Meeting Minutes

**March 6, 2023**

Call to Order : 7:03 pm by Chair Betsy Mozurak

Members Present: Betsie Mozurak, Allison Burgan, Carrie Classen, Joe Downing, County Representation: Patti Benaglio, Tim Jaczesko, Andy Baechleand Joey Linn Ulrich. Guest Corey Seymour, Steward from Trail Pittsburgh.

Secretaries Report: Allison Burgan has read the County Ordinance pertaining to Friends groups and is currently working to bring FOH into compliance with the Ordinance which includes forwarding bank statements, year end reports and adding more members to the group.

Treasurers Report: Allison Burgan announced the Hartwood Fest fundraiser raised \$7,447,87 bringing the Hartwood Fund total to 37,477.53.

County Reports:

- Patty Benaglio reported the on-line sign ups for Mansion events seems to be running smoothly. Currently the Mansion is experiencing a staff shortage and are looking for part time and seasonal employees.
- Tim Jaczesko announced the park has a lot of events booked. Currently the Public Works department is working on the trees which have fallen down in all the wind storms, especially at the DogPark. A request has been submitted to have the Middle Road Parking Lot paved, as well as upgrades to the stage. The apartment in the Stable Complex will be used for a Bridal Suite and a Special Events office.
- Andy Baechle reported the FOH requested small dog off-leash dog park should be installed this summer. A new parking area is being established at the Stables along with a walkway in front of the Stable doors and a pad for the porta potty. There is currently a Movie being filmed called “the Felician Sisters”. The Park Rangers are gearing up to give tours of the Sculpture Gardens. There will no longer be weddings at the Mansion on Sundays. A new Sound System will be in use during any event at the Mansion. Since Hemlock Groove is from 6-8 pm, he will see if we will be able to continue this event, maybe even using acoustics bands instead of full bands. Concert Season is approaching, no schedule of Bands has been released except for Maple Fest which will be in the field next to the stage May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Joey Linn Ulrich formally introduced herself to the group since taking over as Executive Director of the Allegheny Parks Foundation. She announced the date of the Twilight Picnic to be August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. She also let the group know about an overview of small improvement projects program for Friends group and added there are still 5 benches available for Hartwood.

New Business:

- Corey Seymour from Trail Pittsburgh introduced himself to the group and reported that while work is being done on the trails a lot of work needs to be done, especially in the area of drainage of some  
Of the trails, most importantly the Blue Trail. An expert was brought in to analyze this busy trail by the dog park and an estimate of \$30,000 was thought to cover the repairs. FOH thought maybe the proceeds from Hemlock Groove could go towards this project to help with costs. Corey mentioned that they fixed the trail by the Mansion and are headed to both the white and Purple trails next.  
The Blue Trail project will begin in August.
- Potential projects: Along with helping Trail Pittsburgh with the Blue Trail other potential projects were discussed. Allison Burgan mentioned the Foundation's Small Project idea list and would like to see an environmental/educational program concerning invasive Weeds. Andy Baechle mentioned the maintenance of the Pipe Organ (an FOH original project). Patty Benaglio and Betsie Mozurak discussed the much-needed refurbishing of the very rare Steinway Piano that had an estimate 10 years ago of \$60,000 to be repaired. Allison Burgan suggested FOH donate the "seed" money within the Foundation so donors may get tax exemptions and would also allow grant writing. A vote on these expenditures will happen at the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Next Meeting: April 3, 2023

A motion to adjourn was made by Betsie Mozurak, seconded by Joe Downing at 8:07 pm

- *Respectfully submitted by Allison Burgan, Secretary/Treasurer*