

March CCFM Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

In Attendance: Jane Sewell, Mackenzie Gawell, Tony Richardson, Tedd McNett, Dawn Thomas, Judy Fortin, Beverly Humbert, Commissioner Joe Vigliotti, Tom Gordon, Jr., Gabe Zepp

Tony Richardson called the meeting to order at 9:30a.

December Meeting Minutes – Tony Richardson made the motion to accept, seconded by Tedd McNett

Introduction of New Board Members: Jane Sewell

Jane advised and introduced three new board members, Matthew Luzuriaga (who was not able to be present today), Tom Gordon, Jr. and Gabe Zepp, who both told us a bit about themselves and their interests in serving CCFM. Board members reciprocated.

Camp Report: Mackenzie Gawel

- Mackenzie recapped the many camp sessions past and future, including attendance and revenue, which prove to be very lucrative.
- All are extremely well attended and provide a wide variety of creative and educational themes,
- This year so far there are 4 weeks of summer camps with 3 themes, 4 mini-camps and 6 morning programs.
- Mackenzie provided samples of the flyers that she has created to advertise and attract attendees.

The board recognized that Mackenzie is providing all of these as a part time employee.

Manager's Report: Jane Sewell

- As a follow-on to Mackenzie's presentation, Jane discussed her efforts to use a recently vacated part time position to add to Mackenzie's part time position to create a full-time position for Mackenzie's body of work. Full time conversion would also include benefits, which is the discussion point at this time.
- Pavilion Update: Jane reminded us that this effort is tied to a grant, and was initiated by Jack Lyburn. Site work is complete. Delivery of pavilion itself is now anticipated end of April. It will come in pieces. Long Fence will install a perimeter fence around the site, which will have some impact on space for events.

Managers Report: Jane Sewell - continued

- Animals: Goats, chickens and the rabbit are on site. Several sheep will be brought in, on loan, in about a month. The Red Devon oxen, Jack and Jim, will come back in several weeks, after the pastures are fertilized. Jane's research has shown that they were born in 2011. At 14, they are several years younger than first thought. The Hoff barn has purchased a new team of red and white Short Horned Oxen from New Hampshire (4-H project). The young man who raised them has given names of Syd and Marty. They are currently at the Shirley's farm.
- Events Calendars and flyers: Were provided for our pickup. The season starts end of April.
- Contract with Bartlett/Stansbury. Jane announced CCFM has signed an annual contract with Bartlett for tree care to include spraying, trimming, etc.
- Blacksten Mill Update: Jane reviewed history and progress-to-date for new board members. The initial desired location could not be approved because of Federal Flood Plain Restrictions. The approved location is behind the reception barn. Jane believes it is on budget track. A fall target of completion could occur. Ted asked and suggested that Mr. Blacksten be interviewed and taped to describe in his words, how the mill came to be.
- The May 1 bus tour/afternoon dessert tea is scheduled for May 1. Beverly offered her assistance.
- Future tea dates have not yet been set.
- Brick wood burning oven project: CC Tech is working to build a brick oven which will be used at one of the camps. It will be built to be portable in that it could be moved, if necessary, with a tractor with forks. It will be set on a concrete pad. Target completion by end of school year.

Tony Richardson: Planning Report

- Tree replacement: Tony has suggested input on tree replacement that Bartlett will now do. He suggests a hardy native species and will reach out to Bryan and Jeremy.
- Sharon Bollinger is working with local high school students to provide garden maintenance.

Commissioner Vigliotti's Report:

- PSEG – Commissioner Vigliotti gave the update that our commissioners filed a Letter of Opposition with the PA Utilities Commission. If the PA Utilities Commission denies the project, it is out. Our commissioners are also working (in opposition) with the MD Public Service Commission. To date, over 180 individuals have also filed with the MD PSG in opposition. New information is that PSEG has discovered they would need 303 access road for this project which would require an additional 120 acres of land.

Commissioner Vigliotti's Report – continued

- Budget: Budget is in somewhat better shape than last year, but this provokes entities to ask for more.
- Education/Blueprint. Commissioner Joe shared his wealth of information about this very complicated and expensive initiative, which he describes as grossly in excess of affordability for every county, not just Carroll. The amount needed is \$57M. Some suggestions have been to use the budget surplus (but that has accumulated over many years and would be seriously depleted) tax increases (not favored). Joe's final comments described how the Blueprint is not yet finalized and does not understand "itself". Ted McNett informed us that there is a Board of Education meeting today at 4:00p to talk about impact. Live stream from Board of Ed website or local cable Channel 21.
- Ag Land Preservation. Gabe Zepp asked Commissioner Joe about the State provided funds for this. Joe acknowledged that the Governor is looking to scale back and advised that Carroll County needed to cut last years \$3M budget by \$1M.

New Business: There was no new business.

Tony Richardson made a motion to close the meeting at 10:50a with a second by Gabe Zepp.

The Next meeting is April 9, 2025 at 9:30a.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Fortin