

## December CCFM Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

In Attendance: Jane Sewell, Tony Richardson, Tedd McNett, Dawn Thomas,  
Judy Fortin, Beverly Humbert, Gabe Zepp, Commissioner Joe Vigliotti

A tour of the new Maintenance Building was held prior to the start of the meeting.

Tony Richardson called the meeting to order at 10:05a.

October Meeting Minutes (no quorum at November meeting) Motion to approve by Judy Fortin, seconded by Tedd McNett

### Manager's Report: Jane Sewell

- Jane introduced Gabe Zepp as a potential board member.
- Holiday Tour will come to a conclusion this weekend. It has been very successful with over 1000 attendees so far.
- Teas – there have been 9 teas since the fall, all very successful. 129 people were served with a profit of \$1,392.
- The Office of Tourism has tentatively booked a tea event in May. It is a bus trip. Attendees will have breakfast elsewhere, lunch at Antrim Inn, then tea and dessert and a tour of the Farm Museum. Potential of 55 people. \$15/person for tea/dessert.
- Camps – Dawn Thomas was recognized and applauded for making a very generous donation for the express use for the camp programs. It will be its own special fund. Thank you, Dawn!
- Mini camps – Mackenzie plans mini camps on days that there is a school holiday for children. They run 9a-12p. Cost is \$30 per child. They are very well received. Tinsmith and hearth kitchen activities are among those planned.
- Blacksten Mill – the mill was labeled, disassembled and moved on site. The proposed location is between the Living History Center and Implement Barn. Commissioners Gordon and Vigliotti are to meet with Dean Leister (Environment) to review location and request approval.

### Commissioner Vigliotti's report:

- PSEG – Commissioner Vigliotti gave a very thorough review of the project and its status. PSEG will need to come up before the Maryland Public Service Commission for project approval, but a date has not yet been set. There are various steps of opposition that can be taken before, during and after approval (if PSC approves). If approved, this project will take over 476 acres of farmland, 125 acres of forest land, 17 acres of wetlands, and 156 properties in our county. It was discussed that it could be helpful for CCFM board to provide a formal letter of opposition to this project a.s.a.p. Tedd McNett made a motion for this with

Tony Richard as second. A letter will be drafted, circulated and collectively signed individually by each board member.

- Budget - Budget season will soon commence. Although not as bad as last year, the deficit is approximately \$5.2M - \$5.4M

#### Tony Richardson Planning Report

- New Pavilion and additional grading. Tony asked of the status of the new pavilion and the other grading project. Jane responded that the additional grading project could not be done. The pavilion foundation has been dug and covered as the weather has not been good enough to pour concrete. The concrete will be stamped. Tony advised against putting a stain (color) on the concrete as it fades over time. Gabe Zepp suggested a local entity (Matt Black) that does stamped concrete work for when it goes out to bid. Jane commented that the building structure is scheduled to arrive in March 2025. The location of the new pavilion was discussed as it is within 40 feet of the current one, which seems close. Thoughts were that the original location was farther away. Jane confirmed that the plan was carefully re-examined at project start and it is in the approved location.
- Replacement signage – Beverly inquired about the status. John is working on this with CCTech. John is also working with same on a brick oven.
- Tree replacement – Tony suggested to plant a tree in the spring to replace the one that was taken down at the Alms House. He suggested a native Bass Wood tree.
- Gas Tank – Tony will talk to Bryan to see if there is a way to hid or make flush the gas tank at the Alms House.
- Garden report – The garden looks good

#### New Business

- Night Tours - Beverly commented regretfully that the night tours were not well attended
- Forge Bellows - Ted mentioned that the bellows in the forge need repair. He discussed replacement options of leather or canvas. He will coordinate the repairs. In the meantime, hand crank bellows will be used.
- Jane commented that CCFM previous manager, Dottie Freeman had passed away.

Meeting was called to a close by Tony Richardson at 11:08a

No meetings in January or February. Next meeting March 2025

Respectfully submitted, Judy Fortin