

## May CCFM Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

In Attendance: Jane Sewell, Tony Richardson, Tedd McNett, Judy Fortin, Beverly Humbert, Commissioner Joe Vigliotti, Tom Gordon, Jr., Gabe Zepp, Matt Luzuriaga

Tony Richardson called the meeting to order at 9:31a.

New Board Member Matt Luzuriaga, was introduced, and each attendee gave a brief introduction about themselves and their interests in serving the CCFM Board.

April Meeting Minutes – Tony Richardson asked for the motion to accept, moved by Tedd McNett, seconded by Gabe Zepp, with a minor correction to the new shorthorn names, which are Sid and Marty.

### 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Blacksmith Days Update: Tedd McNett

- Will be held this weekend – May 17/18 12p-4p, hosted by The Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland
- Among guest blacksmiths are Tedd Banning from Virginia, and Jacob and Amy Selmer, from Harney. The latter pair will construct a tree of life out of iron with hot glass work embellishments
- Meals will be available for purchase
- An auction of hand forged items will be held Saturday May 17 at 5p
- There will be several members that will be on-site campers – they will provide security

### Tony Richardson: Planning Report

- Tree replacement - A sugar maple has been planted
- Tony has determined that the contract with Bartlett does not include deer repellent spraying
- Rose garden – Tony is hanging bars of Irish Spring soap for deer deterrent, He also stated that groundhog(s) are back and will attempt to use same to deter.
- It was brought up that thankfully the geese are not nesting this year, as they can be aggressive to visitors (children).

### Commissioner Vigliotti's Report:

- Commissioner Joe thanked everyone for supporting the Veterans Appreciation Day, and that despite the rain it was nicely attended. He commented that several veterans had never been to the Farm Museum and really enjoyed the experience.

#### Commissioner Vigliotti's Report: continued

- Budget: The budget is in its final form and will go forward for passage on 5/22/25. Nothing is affecting CCFM. No Tax increases.
- Heart of the Civil War Heritage Organization: The Commissioner described the process by which this organization receives money from the County and the City. Note: This was the organization that encouraged CCFM to apply for a grant for the Blacksten Mill, which was not awarded. Also noted was a very poor rate of return to the County, however a much better return to the City. The return figures were wildly disparate, with the City much higher. As a result, some Commissioners were not in favor of allocating annual funds to CWHO, but it was decided that they would again be awarded this year. However, Commissioner Vigliotti has put them on notice that he will have periodic discussions and reviews with this organization and their returns to the County. To that end he challenged the CCFM Board to think about another project or need that we could ask for funding from CWHO. Judy Fortin asked if the remainder of the unspent costs for the Blacksten Mill could be again applied for, but it cannot.

#### Manager's Report: Jane Sewell

- Caretaker Status: The caretaker resigned. Other CCFM staff are sharing the responsibilities which include: Security, opening and closing of the gates, feeding animals on the weekends, post event sweeps and lock up. The extra time consideration for the staff is problematic. The renovation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apartment is underway and could be ready by early June. A candidate has been identified. HR needs to iron out some details with a county employee living rent free on the facility, in terms of a 1099 perhaps. Jane is encouraging this to be handled expeditiously, both for CCFM and the individual who very much wants the position.
- Pavilion: Promises for delivery of the structure pieces were made in April and May. However, now the company cannot locate where this is. Public works makes daily calls to determine status. Tedd McNett brought up the excellent point that while understanding work must go to the lowest bidder, it would be so much more advantageous to employ/hire/award to local companies. Commissioner Vigliotti agreed that this is a point well taken.
- School groups: all of the visits have been very successful, several groups come in every week, and will do so through June. Jane noted that so far 4 of them have been from Baltimore County – it's nice to get the out of county exposure,

## Manager's Report: Jane Sewell - continued

- Oxen – the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Jack and Jim's presence at CCFM is this year. This milestone will be celebrated at the Food Truck Sunday event June 8. A lengthy discussion followed as Jane explained that the Hoff Barn Committee (HBC) owns them. They are 14, and can remain healthy for some years to come. Teeth and feet are what usually can become areas of concern as they age. Gabe was very helpful in his knowledge of cattle/oxen and how they age and he is also familiar with them. It came to Jane's attention that the HBC want to put Jack and Jim out to market and replace them with the recently acquired newer younger Shorthorns, Sid and Marty. Jane attended a recent Hoff Barn Committee meeting and put forward an offer to purchase Jack and Jim outright, but it was rejected. The HBC agreed, for now, to allow them Jack and Jim to be at CCFM until October. The Shorthorns, Sid and Marty, will come to CCFM in June when Elaine returns from being out of town. The 4 oxen have been together and do get along. After much discussion, the Board feels we would like to do what we can to keep Jack and Jim at CCFM as it is felt they are great ambassadors. To that end, we are suggesting that Jane advise HBC that CCFM Board members would like to attend the HBC meeting on June 5 at 9:30 in the Grier Room to have an open discussion about Jack and Jim and how they might remain at CCFM.

New Business: There was no new business.

Tony Richardson asked for a motion to close the meeting at 11:05a, moved by Tedd McNett, seconded by Matt Luzuriaga.

The Next meeting is our Annual Board and Family Picnic, on Wednesday, June 11 at 6:00p. Jane has asked you email her your RSVP with the number attending as soon as you are able.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Fortin