

Beatrix Farrand Society Board Meeting for Saturday 28 May 2016

Present: Wendy Knickerbocker, Julia Leisenring, Lois Stack, Stephanie Burnett, Neil Houghton, Michaelleen Ward, Gerd Grace, Isabel Mancinelli, Betty Massie, Dick Habermann, Mary Roper, Scott Koniecko Absent: Genie Thorndike, Vicki Goldstein

I. 10:03 A.M. Call to Order

II. Review of Minutes of 10 October 2015

Approved as written by all attending.

III. Committee Reports

A. Nominating

Gerd Grace has met with Neil Houghton and received information about potential board members. Gerd welcomes suggestions. Possible contacts were mentioned.

B. Development

A total of \$25,000 has been raised toward the monograph from five individuals among them were two board members, and this amount should cover the cost of the monograph.

The Achievement award lecture was supported by a board member last year and will be for the next four years.

C. Collections/Library

See Collection and Library reports

Wendy Knickerbocker described the ways she accommodates requests for appointments to use the library.

D. Programs

See report

Stephanie Burnett offered additional background and information about the excellent forth coming programs, mentioning in particular, the Achievement Award lecture. A question was raised as to whether the barn at Garland Farm will seat enough people for the lecture on the Carriage Roads, it was suggested that two presentations might be offered.

E. Docents and Tours

Emily and Jim Fuchs have two private tours scheduled for the season; one occurred on May 24th. The Bar Harbor Garden Club will host a regional convention this year and GF will accommodate their visitors on June 15th. Docents and volunteers are being recruited for Open Days and to assist with programs and special events.

Neil Houghton suggested that a video be made of Jim and Emily's presentation during a tour. Scott Koniecko offered that such a video might be used during docent orientation.

F. Publications

Scott Koniecko is the editor of the newsletter. The most recent issue of the newsletter is different because the Reef Point Bulletin was used a model with the idea that future Newsletters will be too. The article, by Lois Stack, in the newsletter is scholarly and one that is intended to be part of an ongoing series.

The description of the development of the monograph was given. The intent is to have a comprehensive view of how Beatrix Farrand and John D. Rockefeller worked together on the carriage roads, it will, like a guidebook, have a narrative that is augmented with notes. Neil asked if a preprinted order form might be created for advance sales during July and August.

G. Membership

See membership report

One question that surfaces is how to engage year round folks and gardeners. Scott Koniecko offered that dynamic programming may increase attendance. Another suggestion was that the post office has a program that for eleven cents per copy, they will put advertising in everyone's box. Organizational membership and/or support might be created; people who work for non-profits might belong as members if their organization joined. Stephanie Burnet mentioned that UMO students may not be aware of BFS and wonders if a category of student membership might be created.

H. Landscape and Garden

The gardens came through winter well; the transition to AC Parsons has been smooth. Jasmine and Danielle are following direction given by Carolyn Hollenbeck and will now work with Isabel Mancinelli. Discussion concerning organic methods ensured; the protocol for organic practices should remain in place. A couple of roses didn't make it through the winter; Isabel suggested some might be kept in the holding garden for back up. Once the front fence is done, it will be time to restore the entrance garden. The Cultural Landscape report includes details about what was there, the landscape and garden committee has been asked to adjust the entrance garden plantings so that they are as close to the original as possible while making modifications that will accommodate current environmental conditions. Mary Roper will join that committee, as Lois Stack leaves the board.

I. Facilities

Money has been raised for the new fence and the restored balustrade. The fence was supposed to have been completed by Memorial Day but to date it has not. A film company will be here to work on footage for a film about Beatrix Farrand. Neil suggested that a short video be made and sent to people who have donated to the Front Entrance Garden. Gardener's shed/garage is moving; and it needs to be lifted and put on new pilings to keep it in place. Lois Stack is looking into glass for the greenhouse; it's difficult to find glass that is appropriate for that building.

J. Exhibitions

Marion Spaulding worked with Mrs. Farrand on the herbarium for Reef Point. This year's exhibition will be of vouchers that were done by Spaulding. Scott Koniecko has completed a great deal of work

including clean up of the originals and has generated images for the vouchers. Lois Stack went to NH and researched Marion Spaulding's life and her work. The family sent BFS all the papers and the Society was able to respond to them. It may be that the show will be presented at UC Berkeley and UMO.

I. Special Events and Hospitality

See special events report

The July 24th event includes a morning seminar with Jeff Gray and Roxanne Brouse, lunch, carriage road ride, and a reception. If sufficient space exists, BFS guests may be invited for the lecture only.

IV. Treasurer's Report

The report was given by Dick Habermann; he said that BFS had an outstanding year, except for one hiccup – The IRS gave notice that the BFS tax return was not filed. It turned out that the IRS was wrong. Finances include: 45,442.48 , Money market: 19,586.75, \$953.72 in gift account, \$200 in Paypal account; with \$66,182.95 + \$10,000 not deposited to date; \$10,000 pledged by donors for monograph will be forthcoming. Low to mid twenties was raised last year. \$25,000 is committed to monograph. Upcoming expenses: painting needs to be done on outside of building – before clematis grows; that date was missed this year. Dick made a plea for members to join on the finance committee.

V. President's Report

Scott Koniecko reported that everything is going extremely well; monograph has worked out well. Things are being organized to blend i.e. newsletter, exhibition and upcoming programs. Betty Massie asked if the group could review the Cultural Landscape report. Scott suggested that the October meeting we could have a lunch that includes members of the advisory committee to determine what we have accomplished so far and what we can do in the future. Scott thanked everyone for helping things work smoothly and for what looks like an excellent summer ahead.

VII. Old Business

A. Pollinator Project

See Pollinator Garden report

Lois Stack reviewed the history and reported on the project to date. Meghan Leach, a graduate student from UMO, will be documenting the bees and will compile a list and photos for 2016. The project will be one of low impact and its success will be studied to determine if it is to become a long term effort.

VIII. New Business

B. Monogram/Graphics

The plan is to use the Reef Point bulletin as graphic guide instead of using ways of the recent past. Should the monogram be changed? No need to duplicate Reef Point but the Society may continue things that have already been done. Beatrix Farrand's work is in the classical style.

C. Monograph Distribution

Discussion included how to distribute the monograph. It is not geared for a national audience so the thinking is that park lovers, libraries and gardeners will be the audience. A suggestion was made to add it to the website. Editions ought to be made available that people can see and an explanation that it will be available locally later in the summer. The decision was made to keep distribution in-house for the 2016 season. Neil suggests that pre-printed order forms be distributed to the garden clubs for signed copies to get a sense of how the sales might go. At next board meeting have a complete accounting and decide how to proceed. The cost of the books is \$16.00 per copy and the sale price will be around \$35.00. The ultimate goal is that the distribution be done in-house. It was added that David Rockefeller is writing the introduction.

D. Fuchs' Gift

Diane Cousins has begun deaccession of BF artifacts; and the Fuchs have collected a number of items. Wendy talked about items made of different materials requiring different conditions for housing and preservation. The Fuchs would like items displayed together; they suggest that they be housed in the closet in the Clementine room. Wendy read the "deed of gift" that exists from the original board of BFS. A vote to accept the offer of this generous gift was unanimous. It was also decided that a committee would talk with the Fuchs about the how it could be displayed. Neil and Julia offered to spearhead this effort.

E. Signage

Michaeleen Ward mentioned signage for BFS, which has been discussed in the past. She wonders if temporary signage could be developed. Scott explained that signage should be considered part of an overall look at BFS graphics.

F. Wild Garden Plant Sale

Betty Massie mentioned the Wild Gardens plant sale at St. Saviour's on June 11.

F. Website

Scott asked members to look at the website and to view the extraordinary work that Shirley Beccue has done.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Moody

