

SENATOR FRANK L. MADLA, JR. NATURAL AREA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Date of Meeting: December 29, 2013
Type of Meeting: Board of Directors Meeting
Place of Meeting: Grey Forest City Hall
Time of Meeting: 6:00 PM.

- ❖ Meeting Called to Order 6:05 PM by Frank Madla
- ❖ Recording of Board Members Present – Susan Beavin, Kyle Cunningham, Jennifer Nottingham, Ron Reinhard, Ron Green, Don Darst, Frank Madla
- ❖ Declaration of a Quorum - *yes*
- ❖ Secretary's Report – Both November meetings minutes accepted with one change as noted on 1-17-14 minutes. Motion by Jennifer, second by Ron Green, all approved.
- ❖ Financial Report – Balance \$63,031.99. Expenditure summary of expenses since extension and grant monies received was given to board members – it was suggested that we should rework this form to include the Project Activities Cost sheet and keep a running balance of monies spent and balances left for each area and that this be discussed at each meeting – Don Darst volunteered to create this sheet.
- ❖ Sub-Committee Status: All activities since the last Board Meeting
 - * Safety/Security – see New Business Security item below
 - * Biological Management – Bird Season begins in March
See New Business Prescribed Burn item below
 - * Historical – Susan Beavin – no report
 - * Fundraising – Dr. Frank Madla– Frank will update the web to include new address for the Friends of Madla Park , updates on paver prices and sizes. Small pavers will remain at \$75, Large pavers will be \$250. The current board will be revised in 2014. It was discussed and agreed upon that keeping the 501C3 is very valuable. The Fundraising Board will meet at the Natural area (date to be determined). They will discuss the role of the Conservancy, the role the City will have, how the Conservancy can evolve into the “Friends of Madla”, discussion and selection of the 4 board members (Mary will be dropping off, Anthony may join the board.
 - * Earth Science – Ron Green no report
 - * Trails Committee – Jen Nottingham – Trails committee including Susan Beavin and Ron Green will meet and determine placement of signs that have been made and coordinate with Chris (public works). Susan Beavin has the list of signs and locations..
 - * Landscape Committee – Storms Duthie – no report

Discuss and take action (if necessary) on the following topics:

(This notice is posted pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act -Texas Government Code 551)

1. Old Business:

Madla Cottage Status Report - Storms reported the Cottage is mostly complete with the exception of the burglar bars.

Signage update – Fossil sign – Ron Green – David MacDermitt Ron Green will contact David in regard to the status of the Fossil sign, Blazes and Brochures and will report back to the Board at the January, 2014 meeting.

Newsletter – Susan Beavin _ Susan will put together a Newsletter to be included in the 2014 General Newsletter being sent out by the city.

Trails - Discussion that the ADA project has been completed and approved.

2. New Business:

Discussion regarding Madla Conservancy plans for future – Frank Madla will update the website to change the old PO Box address to the city address. Ron Reinhard mentioned that Shannan should be able to sort the mail and put the Madla Conservancy mail in a box by the council boxes.

Discuss date for Spring Work Day – February 22nd 8am to 11am scheduled

Updates regarding Prescribed Burn – Jennifer reported that Wendy Leonard will be in charge of the prescribed burn, the Grey Forest Volunteer Fire Department will be the back-up. The area involved will be divided into grids, pictures of the before, during and after time frames will be documented. After the date is set, February 7 or 16, 2104 has been suggested. A letter will be drafted & sent to the residents near the park to explain the prescribed burn plan, the benefits it will offer, etc.

Discuss list of needed items for park cottage – a list that was provided by Storms Duthie was distributed to all board members. Members will contact Storms with items secured. Frank Madla will contact a friend that has a cleaning business for items relating to cleaning, Ron Green has a Fire Place tools. We need to add a Coffee Pot to the list provided by Storms.

A motion was made to allow up to \$2,000 for Burgler Bars and a Cage for the A/C unit by Frank Madla and seconded by Jennifer Nottingham – all approved.

Discuss security, loss of cameras, etc. Ron Reinhard will invite Mitch Thornton to come to the next meeting and present his ideas on security cameras. The Police Chief mentioned several options to secure the cameras that are still there – one was to place Metal Security boxes over the cameras and secure with cable or Lag bolts. Boxes would cost approximately \$50 each. Jennifer Nottingham made a motion to install extra cameras and buy boxes for cameras we have not to exceed \$400. Second by Kyle Cunningham. All approved.

Chief Bejar requested that the police be able to use the Cottage structure for Police Monthly meetings on the second Friday of each month. Ron Green made a motion for the Police to have access to the Cottage for training and police interactions. Second by Jennifer Nottingham – all approved.

Items to include on February agenda:

****Contact Mitch Thornton to present Security Camera ideas at next meeting, cost of video camera cost with a live monitor at the police station and that can be recorded, estimate mentioned was \$3000. Also ask Mitch if small solar power cost for each.**

****Fund Raising – Frank to find out about caterer for fundraising event at part, Susan Beavin and Ron Green have offered to do a presentation.**

****Fossil signage – Ron Green to contact David MacDermott regarding status of signage**

****Historical Structures – Storms Duthie to present ideas of conservation of existing historical structures, discuss what else needs to be done to Cottage site – benches, stone area, etc.**

****Committees that can help with maintenance, fund raising, etc.**

****Discuss rules for renting the Cottage, cleaning deposits, etc. Helpful to see how other Natural area conservancies are handling this.**

**** Don Darst to work on TPWD worksheet to track expenditures**

Adjournment Motion by Frank Madla with second by Ron Green to adjourn at 7:30pm