

## Meeting Minutes Thursday September 1st, 2022 6:00 PM: Barn Owl Bistro

Attendees: Wendy Scott, Craig Cimmons, Marlana Valenta, Ellen Fox, John Little, Paul Stanley, Corrina King (and William), Brian Jerose, Lindsey Wight, and Cynthia Scott joined via zoom.

- 1) Meeting was called to order at 6:09.
- 2) Review of August meeting minutes
  - o JL made a motion to accept, CC seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- 3) Administrative business
  - o Newsletters are going out shortly!
  - o Need to add Marlana, Craig, and Ellen to our email list, so they get the updates (and physical mailing list?)
  - o Office update: downstairs exterior walls are insulated; the roofing is nearly done, and the brick work is moving along. The water-in-the-basement issues are nearly resolved - the hard rain of the other day yielded just a small amount of water: the basement is - and will continue to be - dry!
  - o Planning for windows at the end of September.
  - o Some discussion of the history of the building: it would be good to have on display in the “new” building. There was a good article in the SA Messenger.
  - o JL would like us to hold a spaghetti dinner in mid-November for all the workers.
- 4) 25th Anniversary event: Oct 1 at Pigeon Hill Barn. Site tour!
  - o Invitees: compile from Board members - please send more to Lindsey. Judy Bond, Wayne LaRoche, Al Perry, Kate Barcellos (SA Mess), someone from the Courier?, Richard Cowperthwaite (may be able to advertise on his show “On The Record”?), Kurt Valenta. Waive ticket costs for some “VIPs”?
  - o Jobs list: subctte will make a sign-up - may be able to recruit AmeriCorps members to help fill “jobs”. Need to include a photographer.
  - o Sponsors - keep them coming!
  - o Photo booth: should we purchase a camera or printer? No, just take photos, then we’ll post them to FB and our website - people can access them there.
  - o Silent Auction items - keep them coming, too!
  - o Posters - please hang. Lindsey will also email the poster and the website out.
  - o Postcard invites
  - o Music: Tom’s band?
- 5) Programs and Projects update, and planning
  - o Tree planting planning - seeking landowners. Please think of any, and share with Lindsey/Ellen. Corrina will put out a press release to recruit.
  - o Culverts: AOP-related; seeking funding for several that have been designed
  - o Longley Bridge Rd: will seek funds to implement — it’s a big project (could possibly encompass the upstream portion now; town no longer has enough to cover the full cost)
- 6) Events: Circle of Courage presentation/art show/interactive (videos?) - North Troy event; focused on 3/4/5th grades connecting humans and nature through art: the river is not an object, but an entity... our cultural beliefs shape our interactions. Older students: ethnography - train the teachers (Alex Lehning, formerly of the St Albans Museum, will be able to help with this): work with language arts folks; perhaps something for school newspaper.
  - o End of Oct/early Nov: hold during “PTA time of day”?
  - o Would be nice to do a parallel project in Montgomery, but not sure we can support 2.
  - o Knotweed bonfire? Do this late in Nov or Dec?
  - o Soiree
- 7) Policies/Strategic Plan update: 5-year plan/business plan. Not fun or exciting, but helpful - but we need to retain our adaptability; build this into the plan. Also need to keep it relevant and in front
- 8) Other comments? None
- 9) Next meeting: Oct 6, 2022: EMS in Eburg
- 10) Adjourn at 7:54pm