

Hooper Board Meeting
Feb. 11, 2020

Present:

Holly Gowdy, Marcia Galloway, Helen Dahlbeck, Liz Collinsworth, Kim Lewis, Cheryl Mayberry, Amy Owens, Becky Whippie, Jon Meadows

Review:

Jan. 8th Secretary Report: Submitted by Emma Kobeski

Cheryl requested a clarification on what grades Hooper is trying to add to its coverage.

Notes say 7th only. Cheryl understood 8th grade also.

Marcia made the motion to accept, Amy seconded. Passed

Treasurer's Report

Current balance \$372. New anonymous donation underwriting the April Owl program for \$535. Marcia moves to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by ?. All passed.

Director's report- see attached.

Upcoming collaboration with Art Afterschool. Helens strategy is to collaborate with existing programs, library, Distant Hill etc...Goal is one public program a month. Eyes on Owls- 4/11 Town Hall. Ticketed event

White Pine Branch down at the Institute. Needs a tree person to come clean up the mess. Looking for names. Contact her directly. It can come out of the Maintenance Fund.

Submitted the Hooper Institute report for the annual Town Report.

Possible collaboration with Planet A- Arbor Day tree planting. 4/24

Camps- Dates are set. Two weeks. Woodworking morning and afternoon.

9-12, 1-3. Looking for a helper.

Friends Of Hooper

FEb. 25 7:00 Business Meeting, Update on the Dec. fundraising ask. Plan out next mailing, begin work on the first annual trail run. First two weeks in March, schedule a larger meeting with new friends to focus specifically on the fundraiser

Hooper Scholarship Committee- Kim Lewis

Reviews the process for the scholarship application and committee work. Meet in Early June to review new applications and reports submitted by existing scholarship recipients. Generally first year applicants get a smaller amount until they have proved themselves. Amazing pool of students. Also open to adults. As long as the learning is aligned with the mission. Students who leave the public school system are not as easily accessed and might not be tapping in to the funds. Would like to improve reaching that population.

Discussion about a Hooper Institute annual report that tells stories of the work in the K-12 program and the scholarship program. Additional tool for getting the word out.

Applicant pool- 2-6 per year.

Budget review- Current obligation is about \$32,000 per year. Spending down accrued interest. Current balance is around around 66,000. At current rate of spending, the accrued interest will be gone in two years and since the Trusts are co-mingled, which was mandated by the Office of Charitable Trusts. Trustees of the Trust Funds chose to add a .5 FTE to support a growing Hooper Institute. Need to focus on generating revenues to maintain sustainability. Two years to work on solutions. General brainstorm on possible solutions. Friends Of Hooper can

include scholarship fundraising in it's focus. Moving ahead, the Scholarship committee will be a subset of the Hooper Committee.

Capital Reserve Financial- In order to move the money out of the capital reserve fund (which is of unclear origin) at Cambridge Trust. Karen needs a letter from the Trustees of the Trust granting permission to transfer that money out of that account into the new Hooper checking account. Cheryl will follow up on that. Karen Galloway can help clarify what the money is and where it came from. Discussion about putting some of that in PDIP because it gets a higher interest than a traditional CD. Using the town's VIN to start a bank account facilitated that process.

New Members:

Liz Collinsworth, Jon Meadows. Holly reviews the process for becoming a member of the Board. Elaine Heleen is cycling off the Board, she was the liaison to the Conservation Commission. Cheryl is the Selectboard liaison to the CC also. Heather Brady is a question. May be retain her as FoHI as the Institute meeting times are not lining up with her schedule.

FOHI fundraiser- Trail run is scheduled for May 16th. Commitment secured from 4H to help run the event.

Summer Work Program

General discussion about the process and status of Helen's plans. Suggest that Andrea Sawyer get in touch with Helen to discuss improving the hiring process. In the past the deadline for submitting an application has been firm, which is positive.

Summer Camp- Helen is considering charging for summer camp. \$50 per week. Two sessions. On the sign up, include a line for sponsor another camper. Will we lose kids by charging? No one will be turned away. There will always be "scholarships" Cheryl suggests a conversation with Justin Cassarino about how he addresses funding kids. Research liability issues that may arise from charging. Also if we open ourselves to being subject to day camp regulation.

Additional Business: Logo Review and Discussion. Helen shares a piece from a graphic artist she has contacted. His rate would be \$200. Purpose of a logo is to identify an organization. Sources of advice in the community: Jan Kobeski, Karen Andrus, Liz Collinsworth's daughter, Rebecca. Board directs Helen to continue with her current path. Hoping to get a b/w version, maybe a color version. Style guide.

Helen is attending a meeting of various education organizations at Orchard Hill.

Amy and Henry motion to adjourn. All agreed.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm.