

Rocky Springs Carousel Association Minutes meeting January 20, 2022

Attending: Chuck Colson, Gail Scott, Steve Hohenwarter, Peggy Steinman, Rick Heilig, Brad Boyd

Absent: Janet Spleen, Alana Hunter, Mick Kauffman, Seth Obetz

The meeting took place via Zoom. With five members in attendance a quorum was present. President Gail Scott opened the meeting at 7 PM.

Minutes of March 2021 meeting

Request was made for any addition or corrections to the 2021 Minutes. Gail had made some minor corrections; the approved minutes will be posted in the Board folder online. No changes requested. Chuck motioned to approve the Minutes of the March 1, 2021 Annual Meeting, seconded by Gail. All in favor and motion carried.

Gail reviewed some of the bylaws, which include provisions for forming nominating committees to elect Officers and new Board members. The bylaws require an annual reorganization meeting to be held in February, if another date isn't set. We will set this meeting date in March, so that we have more time to recruit potential new Board members.

Gail made a motion to change 2022 Annual Meeting Date to March 2022 (rather than Feb) as noted on the agenda, Peggy seconded. All in favor and motion carried.

Nominating Committees:

Chuck made a motion to waive appointment of a 5 member Officer Nominating committee by the President, and to take Officer nominations from the floor today for election at the March 2022 annual meeting (tbd). Peggy seconded the motion; all in favor and motion carried.

Jay Clark, who was appointed in December 2021 as a nominating committee chair (for Board Director nominations), can no longer serve as our legal advisor or on a committee. Mick Kauffman, who had previously communicated that he had a conflict and would be unable to attend this meeting, has declined to serve as a Board officer. Rick Heilig has declined to serve as a Board officer.

Gail moved to retain the 5 current officers for 2022 (President: Gail, VP: Chuck, Secretary: Noreene, Acting/Assistant Secretary: Alana). Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor and motion carried.

Chuck made a motion to retain the current Nominating committee members (with the exception of Jay Clark) so that they can nominate new Board Directors at the March Annual Meeting if we have some candidates by then. As noted in the agenda, the committee appointed in Dec. '21 = Mick Kauffman, Chuck Colson, Alana Hunter, and Gail Scott, Jay was chair.) Peggy seconded the motion; all in favor and motion carried.

Chuck proposed that the nominating committee suggest Brad Boyd as a Board member at the March 2022 meeting (tbd). Gail agreed.

President's Report:

Gail reviewed the RSCA activity to date /accomplishments listed on the agenda, including revising the bylaws, obtaining insurance, assuming responsibility for RSCA finances, bank account, and loan; moving the 3 trailers to a new location; and inventorying and cleaning the 48 animals in our storage (other than the hunting dog, still not returned by LNP from their storage.) We continue to engage in discussions with Bob Krasne to pick up the hunting dog.

She reported that Covid has presented a challenge in scheduling a Board meeting. She said she just received four boxes of materials from Rob Ecklin that were recently located, and hasn't reviewed all of them yet. They include financial documents through 2001, fundraising information from 1999-01, examples of some promotional items that were sold, posters, and other material. She noted among them is the original 2004 appraisal of the carousel that we had been seeking. She will scan it and post it in the Board's google drive folder. Gail has a contact for a new appraisal, which will cost considerably less than the original one.

Gail sent a thank you to Bob Scurzo, who had shipped us music rolls for our band organ he had been storing at his home in NC (Kim Figari gave them to him.) Gail also wants to thank people who donated in-kind services and said that we can give them a letter, in case they need documentation of the charitable donation.

All members must sign and submit the Conflict of Interest document. Gail noted that married members who serve on the board with their spouse must list that as a potential conflict of interest (i.e. she and Steve, as President and Treasurer of the organization).

Treasurer's Report:

The members reviewed the information from Steve Hohenwarter, as presented on today's Agenda:

Rent -Ecklin Development	\$3600.00
Fulton Bank Loan Interest	\$3600.58
Fulton Bank fees	\$ 60.00
Total Expenses	\$11,553.58

2022 Donations pledged to date: \$20,000 (Steinman), \$20,000 (Scott & Hohenwarter)

	2022 BUDGET - PROPOSED
\$3,600	Rent - storage
\$4500	Insurance Policies (D&O & Carousel/property)
\$4,000	Interest & bank fees
\$26,000	Contract for part-time Manager/Consultant
\$500	New Appraisal
\$38,600	TOTAL

Rob Ecklin's accountant was filing the short tax form IRS 990 for the Association, because the donations and financial activity were under the minimum limit to file a long form, but now we must file the long form. A copy of the 2021 990 form was shared with the meeting agenda. A copy of our current financial statement is also in the Board folder online.

Peggy asked about the \$300/month rent-storage. Gail noted that Rob donated this sum back to the organization. Steve has been paying the rent from the RSCA bank account since the RSCA's new board launched and we took over control of the account. This rent is under the normal market rate, so is, in effect, being subsidized by Rob. Rob is no longer involved with our financials, since resigning as a Board member in 2020, but continues to be supportive of the organization.

Peggy made a comment that we need to be cautious about hiring an Association Manager who is qualified, and Gail agreed, and noted that we plan to hire a consultant, who would be working as a contractor, so we will have flexibility. There were no other questions on the budget. Chuck motioned to approve; Noreene seconded. All in favor and motion carried.

Operations Committee report:

Chuck and Brad are working on finding a new location for the trailers, including a potential site in Lampeter. Chuck will talk to Seth Obetz (who was unable to attend tonight's meeting at the last minute) about helping with the trailers. Gail discussed the concern about potential water encroachment in the storage building. The building does run dehumidifiers. We would like to find a new location and put the trailer contents and animals together. Chuck noted it's a good idea to keep the trailer contents within them, as we may need to move the trailers this year.

Responding to Peggy's question about the Strasburg Railroad [as a location for the storage/carousel], Chuck said the Strasburg Railroad (or the state Railroad Museum) are still an option we want to explore. He will take the lead on scheduling a meeting with the Strasburg Railroad for new discussions. Gail will be communicating with Chuck about these options.

Discuss RSCA 2022 Goals [from Agenda]

- 1) Continue to carefully preserve our c.1924 historic Dentzel park carousel, while making plans to restore it to operation for the benefit of the Lancaster County community.
- 2) Seek opportunities to educate the public on the historic and cultural significance of carousels and to safely display our carousel animals for the local community to enjoy.
- 3) Solicit involvement from interested community volunteers and new Board members, ensuring an inclusive organization with a diversity of thought, skills, & leadership, committed to the stewardship and future of the carousel.
 - Finances: Fund budget/ Fulton loan revision
 - Recruit new / diverse Board members (enthusiasm/ donate - time/ money)
 - Hire Manager part-time for 2022 /contract position.
 - Non-Discrimination Policy
 - Participate in ExtraGive 2022 (register by mid-October; event in mid-November)

Rick agreed to discuss options with the Fulton Bank regarding our loan. We would like to ask them to write off the loan as a donation to the organization, or at least discount the pay-off. [See Agenda].

Gail noted that we will need an audit for us to apply to be part of the Extra Give campaign later this year. Participating organizations were encouraged to post their non-discrimination policy, and we have that as part of our goals as well.

The 2022 budget includes a line item for \$26,000 for a part-time manager.

Objectives for manager: *[from Agenda]*

- Rebrand RSCA with new logo and messaging. Web site. Media/press announcements.
- Recruit & manage volunteers
- RFP (Request For Proposals) (modeled on Oregon's RFP.)
 - Assist with evaluation/ assessment of proposals/ sites.
 - Create a business model plan /carousel restoration plan of action.
 - Grant writing, fundraising plans.
- Arrange exhibit(s) of carousel animals, i.e. partnering with museums or other local org's.
- Evaluate preservation needs & address storage (i.e. larger climate-controlled storage space; moving of 2 trailer contents)

Gail and Chuck will review the contents of the boxes from Rob Ecklin. We need to find information about the brick contributions. PenJoy and Landmark Miniatures have some records on those fundraising item purchases.

Eileen Gregg's book on the carousel is now available. Members are urged to purchase a copy. (Introductory price is subject to change.)

[from Agenda]

244 pp, soft cover, 112 color photos; (\$29.00 + tax @ \$1.74 + shipping \$5@/first, \$2 each additional)

Also available: Flash drive of organ music (\$12.00)

Facebook page: [Lancaster's Hidden Treasure– The Rocky Spring's Dentzel Carousel](#)

To order: Email Eileen at eileengregg32@gmail.com

PayPal:www.paypal.me/RScarousel

Peggy requested that we schedule our March meeting earlier in the day, as this meeting ran later than is ideal (due to technical & audio issues, we were unable to start the meeting at 6:30 pm as scheduled). It would be nice to meet in person, as well.

A meeting the week of March 20th was discussed, and the date and time for the March meeting was chosen: **4 pm on Thursday March 24th**. We will look for a location to hold a meeting in-person, with a zoom option as well.

There being no other new business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Noreene Sweeney, Assistant Secretary