

**Zero Waste McMinnville Board of Directors  
Board Meeting  
January 8, 2024**

**Location:**

Carnegie Room

**Board Members Present:**

Ramsey McPhillips, Steve Iversen, Keith Jordan, Charlene Doland, Allison Ernst, Susan Allen (via zoom)

**Board Members Absent:**

Haley Queen, Linda Werner, Gerry Hunter

**Guest(s)**

Carla Thaler, Jeri White (via zoom)

**Meeting called to order: 5:07 pm**

**Approval of Minutes**

- Two spelling errors were corrected, and the minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

- In total, \$28,545.63 in all accounts
- Steve will be composing and sending out thank you letters and acknowledgements to donors
  - Ramsey proposed that all board members names be included in the thank you letters
- Steve will compile an end-of-year financial report and have it available at the next regular meeting
- Steve presented his expenses for 2023 and requested board approval for ZW reimbursement
  - Motion made to pay Steve for expenses totalling \$1,663.87
  - Board voted and unanimously approved, Steve recused himself from vote

## **Partner Organization Reports**

### Edible Landscapes of Yamhill County

- OCF grant meeting scheduled this month
  - Meeting with partners to establish high level timeline and assignments
- Keith has been doing cost estimates on gardens and applying for donations from raised garden bed companies
- Jerri is working on a project where plastic caps are used to make art and has asked if ELoYC would be interested in using Alpine planter boxes as a backdrop for these pieces

## **ZWM Projects & Reports**

### Sustainable Arts Festival

- Dispute over ownership and continuation of the Arts Festival
  - Due to this and other issues, the Sustainable Arts Festival will no longer continue under the ZW name or with ZW funding
- Recology is open to establishing a new art event in partnership with ZW
  - Slotted for June 1 at The Bindery
  - Ramsey has doubts that we will be able to plan and implement this new event by June 1, 2024
- Ramsey will work on writing a notice to address the community about this news
- Susan suggested reframing this as a marketing opportunity to show improvement and growth
- Carla proposed the idea to host a city wide garage sale

### Plastics Project

- Next Friday, the Plastics Project is having a meeting with all primary volunteers to plan for 2024 and will have more to share with the board soon
- An email reminder will be sent out for next plastic pickup
- Proposed hosting an Earth Day event with the Plastics Project and ZW
- The Plastics Project needs to start raising money and asking donors via email
- Seeking direction and financial assistance
  - Ramsey and Steve asked for the Plastics Project to draft more details and articulated numbers about what they need for funding
- Applying for a grant to subsidize a school program with a storyteller and funding for books in libraries about plastic reduction
- Jeri asked Ramsey if there is more storage at Ramsey's farm for plastic caps
  - Ramsey said yes, there is

- Recology has been delayed in sending out a plastics guide
  - Jeri reached out and hopes to hear back soon
- The Plastics Project is working with Gerry Hunter on “forever ware”

#### Events

- Off season plans - not much to update
  - Working with Doris (MDA) to plan

#### Chapul Farms

- In the process of securing large grants and initiating projects to reduce food waste in McMinnville
- The alley behind The Oak and Visit McMinnville is often full of garbage
  - Will be approaching those businesses to see how we can help deal with the refuse
- Recology reps have not been responding
  - Will approach the City as an indirect method to address the issues we would like to cooperate with Recology on
  - Ramsey will give Recology one week, and then we will proceed from there

#### Standards Project

- Standards project needs to meet soon
- Many businesses in town have been receptive to changes, such as Laughing Bean Bistro

#### **New Business**

##### Guest Speaker Series preparations

- It was proposed that we should add tea, snacks, and live streaming to February speaker series

##### Business Liaison Report

- Susan proposed that we make our marketing and communications more cohesive
- The difference between the email list and CRM
  - The email list is just email where the CRM has a lot more information and functions as a central information point
- Board members need to use the CRM and add to it for it to be effective
- Susan will be adding Carla to CRM access
- Proposed an increase in marketing for the next speaker in the series

- Sal Paralta has reported that the Tribe has tried to contact us via our website and there is an issue - we are not receiving any communication through that channel
- No contact form on the current webpage

#### ZWM Strategic Retreat

- Formed a committee to start planning the retreat
  - Meeting scheduled next Tuesday the 16th @ Mcmenamins 5pm

#### Blanchet House

- They reached out to see how they can work with Chapul Farms to deal with their excess food waste

#### Fundraising

- Many grants available right now
  - We should partner with other organizations and start applying for this money
  - Ramsey has started compiling a list
  - Steve proposed that we add grants to the retreat agenda

#### Other Business

- Proposal made to create some better defined roles for business liaison and civic liaison
- Susan made a suggestion - anyone with a laptop could bring it to meetings and tune into Zoom. This would make it easier for people to hear and see each other when there are people attending the meetings remotely

**Meeting adjourned: 6:13 pm**