

Annual Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by GHR at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, November 25, 2016 at Pelican II on the Rain Lilly Sanctuary's Ethician Foundation Institute for Strategic Biospheric Planning Conference Center.

Board Members Present:

MARGARET ANNE RUSSELL (MAR)  
JANE RUSSELL MCCULLAH (JRM)  
KAREN LEE ROBINSON (KLR)  
SUE BENNETT RUSSELL (SBR)  
GEORGE HAW RUSSELL (GHR)

EXOFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:

MIKE ZELTNER  
KRISTI ZELTNER  
NICK SHURGOT

MAR read board minutes from September meeting. GHR moves to accept the minutes.

SBR seconds. Unanimously approved.

GHR addresses his agenda as written and distributed to board in advance of meeting.

The first is regarding forthcoming gifts to the foundation, and purchases by the foundation:

GIFT Sam Houston Group Bank Tower:

GHR and SBR have one third ownership of the Sam Houston Group bank tower that is planned to be sold to Sam Houston State University. This sale should net about 1.8 M which would be gifted to the foundation. Mike Park and Peter Birkholz will have to approve the gifting of Russell's share to the foundation prior to close of sale.

Margaret Anne Russell moved to accept the gift to the foundation and sale to the university. Motion was seconded by Karen Lee Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

GIFT Video Arts property (4.33 acres near University):

The property is under contract. Upon close, the net to the foundation should be around \$2.8 M. Carter Helm earns 100K on sale.

GIFT Watson Foundation 's Native Plant Preserve:

Due diligence continues in efforts to determine the impact of accepting a transfer of ownership of the Watson Foundation's preserve. This would be on condition that the EF's Scientific Advisory Board would agree to be responsible for its management, hopefully with orchid specialist Joe Liggeo serving as Chairman of the Committee.

PURCHASE of biodiverse 500 acre tract adjacent to Waterwood :

There exists 500 acres on the south side of Palmetto Creek which would add to our preserves and sanctuaries in a meaningful way. GHR would plan to offer 2M cash, pending mineral lease information. The price, however, might go to 2.5M. The land features much biodiversity and tremendous elevation changes. GH R moves that the board authorizes him to negotiate for land up to asking price and perhaps over in order to get the deal done.

KLR moves to authorize GHR of foundation to negotiate for land acquisition in memory of Kenneth L Russell and Marjorie H Russell.

Unanimously approved.

GIFT Waterwood beach house owned by KLR:

KLR has offered her Waterwood beach house as a gift to the foundation to serve as temporary quarters for visiting scientists willing to conduct field studies on the natural areas managed by the foundation.

JRM moves to accept kikikondo, furnished and with linens

Unanimously approved.

PURCHASE: Various key lots in and around Waterwood:

GHR is interested in the foundation's acquiring the Park Forest lots, as well as some other key lots at the former Faulkner poacher camp. These would help to add protection to current wildlife areas and discourage trespass and poaching on EF and UEC land.

A guy from New Zealand owns most of the lots in Park Forest. Those lots would be a perfect area for wounded vets area for living and expansion of green cemetery.

Carlo's job has been to contact lot owners and ask to donate lots - got about 20 donated. Now, going back to remaining donors for sale price to purchase to acquire.

**There** is a lot listed for 35K next to fire cracker point. Realtor said people are willing to donate the lot upon condition that foundation would pay back taxes.

Acquisition of lots near Faulkner poacher site. Should foundation attempt to negotiate for 1 acre near Faulkner site for a price of up to 35K per acre?

SBR makes motion to do this.

MAR seconds. Unanimously approved.

### University Scientific Cooperatives

GHR reported about the continuing efforts to formalize a working relationship with SHSU Natural History Collection and Museum as well as building a consortium of university research relationships under the umbrella of The Ethician Institute for Strategic Biospheric Studies.

There is discussion of publication of a book illustrating Geraldine Watson's 48 paintings that were purchased by The Ethician Foundation, 46 of which are on loan to SHSU and 2 of which are currently on loan to The Universal Ethician Church.

The renowned Dr. Pickering donated 300K bugs to SHSU. He is connected via "Discover Life" and wants to move to Huntsville. GHR outlined plans for the completion of the restoration of a future "Chateau Malbec" and then alternative uses for home, currently named the Birmingham House, should Dr. Pickering be unable to raise the funds necessary to cover the cost of the foundation's investment in the restoration of the building. "Chateau Malbec" would house the Discover Life organization and serve as a research center. Pickering would take over expenses if he wants to create a museum in the building. May invite some VIPs to Huntsville, such as Ross Perot and people from the Pentagon and VA.

### REPORTS:

GHR called for the introduction of various reports to the

board. SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD REPORT:

Dr. Godwin, Chairman of the Board of Scientists, is expected to submit a report outlining ongoing and future research as well as an updated list of members of the Scientific Advisory Board. This report is in progress and will be added to the minutes upon receipt.

Additionally, GHR is asking for a complete inventory of artifacts and furnishings currently on loan to SHSU/Dr. Godwin.

GHR's partial list includes:

Antique balance scale  
 Antique roll top desk  
 19<sup>th</sup> c inscribed clam shell  
 46 paintings by Geraldine Watson  
 an 1898 sawfish saw from Florida  
 4'x22' long boards for tables (need exact count)  
 antique desk for greeting visitors  
 antique desk from courthouse near Venice, Italy  
 large snake skin from the Everglades  
 19 identified Megafauna bones  
 Old reproduction French display cabinet  
 Several unusual chicken feathers  
 Feral dog skull  
 Collection of clam shells from Lake Livingston

#### **MUSEUM PROPERTY MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

Report by Kristi Zeltner.: Steadily getting donations of Native artifacts for the Museum of Genocide. For 2016-17, the priority one project is the historic Birmingham House restoration.

GHR reported a change in security personnel to be stationed in the trailer at the Saw Mill museum site. Current night watchperson is underperforming on duties. GHR asks board to approve the development of a system of cameras to prevent vandalism and crime at the saw mill museum.

**JRM** seconds Unanimously

approved.

#### **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

Report from Mike Zeltner.

The foundation is interested in improving the genetics of the deer herd and also in applying for type 1, then 2, then type 3 special wildlife management status from Texas Parks and Wildlife. GHR also asked for top priorities to be the control of feral hogs, putting an end to pervasive trespassing and poaching by unauthorized parties, and also the prospects for eagle reproduction in the winter.

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Mike reported that he can't get in touch with the people to get this type 3 started. He asked if GHR had necessary paperwork from biologists .We need to check GHR's files for the TPW information.

Mike is putting a noose on poachers with the installation of cameras.

Entergy donated 3K to remove high, barbed wire fences.

NEW BUSINESS:

GHR proposes the possibility of working with the Department of Defense and the VA to establish a "Veterans' *Village*" cemetery adjacent to or near the existing Wounded Warrior Veteran's Cemetery which is managed by the foundation.

GENERAL BRAINSTORMING ABOUT FINANCIAL HEALTH OF FOUNDATION:

Death Tax: GHR and SBR have donated to Foundation all but 10M.

Consider dissolving Church in the foundation.

Ideally, create a Wilderness National Monument (not big thicket and not national forest) at Waterwood;

JRM moved to adjourn meeting. SBR

seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm.

Signed,



Margaret A Russell