Friends of the Outlet board of directors meeting November 15, 2017

Attending: Gwen Chamberlain, Dan Condella, Leon Fontier (via Skype); Kristi Hoag; Tom McGuigan; Dave Reeve (via Skype); Phil Rahr, Peg Thompson and Carol Worth and Maintenance crew chief Mickey Orr Guests: Rachel Knapton, Thomas Alfieri

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. by President Gwen Chamberlain

Motion to accept minutes of the October 18 board meeting with corrections made by Carol Worth, seconded by Kristi Hoag. PASSED

FOTO received a bill from Chubb Insurance for $4,272. Gwen said the bill was received very close to the due date. Dave suggested that payment of the bill be approved subject to review by Steve Stork. Motion by Gwen, seconded by Phil to pay the current bill. PASSED Motion by Gwen, seconded by Kristi to accept the financial report with corrections. PASSED.

The board discussed two vacancies on the board. Gwen said the board has not officially heard from John Warner about his position on the board, noting he has not attended board meetings in some time. John has not officially resigned from the board. Mickey said he will talk with John and get a commitment from him. Chuck McClure formally resigned from the board (board meeting June 28, 2017). Gwen introduced Rachel Knapton and recommended she be appointed to the open position on the board. Motion by Kristi, seconded by Dan to appoint Rachel Knapton to the board to fill Chuck McClure’s position on the board, which will end in April 2018. PASSED

Gwen presented information on a conference scheduled by NYS Parks and Trails in Saratogo Springs on December 1 and 2, 2017. Motion by Dave, seconded by Kristi that FOTO cover expenses up to $200 for any board member who wishes to attend. PASSED.

Mickey reported for the Maintenance committee. He asked if the board would consider asking Tim Hansen and City Hill Construction to select 100 feet of trail each to develop as a sample One would include a base and the other 100 feet without a base. Mickey said it would give an idea of what might be done on the trail. Motion by Dan, seconded by Tom to have Mickey ask Tim and City Hill if they would be willing to do the proposed project PASSED

Mickey said he is expecting information from the Canal Society regarding possible restoration of the lock at Seneca Falls. He said the Lions Club is looking for big projects. Lions Club is considering work on a drainage project on the portion of the trail that is west of the Seneca site. Mickey also spoke about electricity that was recently turned on. He said he would like to have the power shut off until the system can be checked, due to concerns about safety. Gwen said the Yates County planner and county finance chairman would like to have more details about what is needed on the trail. She will discuss this with Mickey.

Carol asked about cameras at Cascade. Dan suggested a professional be hired to place a system of cameras.

Kristi said $3,920 has been received date through the sponsorship campaign.

Phil introduced Thomas Alfieri, Keuka College student who will be spending his field period with FOTO in January. He will be giving 140 hours to FOTO.

Gwen briefly outlined the status of funding and grants. She made a motion, seconded by Carol, to contract with architect Richard Osgood, Jr. of Bero Association to do work he previously proposed at Cascade. FOTO has applied for a grant for a portion of the $3,500 cost, but has not yet heard if the grant has been approved. PASSED

Carol reported for the Long Range Planning committee. FOTO is waiting to hear about an application for a grant from the Genesee Regional Transportation Council. Gwen noted the grant is very competitive and the village has also applied for a grant. Carol said the long range committee would like to have feedback on the planning documents presented at the meeting. Kristi said she would like to have it put into doable parts. Gwen commended the committee for a great job on creating the document.

Leon spoke about the campground, thanking Gwen for background information on the site, particularly NYS conditions outlined in the contract made with FOTO for the property. He said he wanted to bring the legal aspect of the property to the board. Leon said planning for the space is completed and he would like the planning committee to review the document and make the campground part of the overall planning. Leon said he was waiting to speak to the board before approaching the Duck Hunters Club about working on the site, asking if the board is interested in developing the area. Dan said he would talk with Jeff Dean of Duck Hunters Club about the campground. After additional discussion, Dan made a motion to table decision on proceeding with the project, seconded by Tom. PASSED.

Tom said he would like to see the trail extended to Seneca Lake, urging consideration of purchase of the property near the mouth of the outlet if it comes up for sale.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next meeting of the board of directors will be at 7 p.m. on January 17, 2018 at Lyons NationalBbank.