

Finegold Trust Board

Annual Public Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2022

in person and via zoom

Called to Order: 12:02pm

Attendance: Mary, Bill, Tom, Marc and Ron (via Zoom)

Community members: Dirk Smith, Andrew Carrillo, Dan Cryns, Gilly McGlaze, Shawn Hickman, Sophie Carrillo-Mandel and Ron Penland and Jason Marshall

Agenda:

Minutes: Meeting minutes of November 15, 2022 approval is postponed to next meeting due to no quorum available who have been able to review the minutes.

Reports:

Website: Gilly McGlaze has worked hard in the last year on keeping events and meeting minutes (provided by the board) updated on the website. Gilly has helped Mary access the incoming emails so she can address incoming emails directly. Gilly shared an idea to explore other website platforms that may be an improvement to our present website. Marc states Luke may be available to assist. Sophie thought interfacing a blog post on the website might be easier. Once the platform is decided, the contact list should be updated.

Appreciations: Mary wanted to thank all the volunteers and donors for their hard work and generous donations.

Ron Penland: requests information about making recurring donations. Mary will help with this.

Ron Penland: presented some history on Finegold, the involvement of SERHEC and the law suit that brought the Finegold Ranch back to the Finegold Trust. He proposes a "certificate of appreciation" be presented for their participation. Motion made and seconded to generate certificates of appreciation to those individuals who were outstanding contributors, all in favor. Motion carried. This will be presented during the Easter gathering. Mary will work on this project.

Review of finances: Ron: gives recap of finances for the fiscal year July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022. Had the best year of donations. More revenue was retained due to decrease expenses. In

previous years, accounting fees consumed much of the revenue. We are officially reinstated as a nonprofit with the Federal IRS. Currently debt free. Small but steady donations are coming in. We also have the income now generated by having the cattle grazing. Monthly expenses are: insurance, telephone and internet, accounting services and port-a-potty servicing.

Motion made and seconded to accept the annual treasurer's report. All in favor, motion carried.

Nonprofit status: Tom: Ron reported on this above. The last step is awaiting reinstatement with the California Franchise Tax Board (CFTB). All tax filings are up to date. Currently awaiting to hear from the CFTB to give permission for communication between them and Busy Bee Accounting.

Strategic Planning: Marc- We've got the water system, tank, lines are in. This has been the focus over the last couple years. One basic part of the infrastructure. Next, we hope for bathrooms, community center that can serve groups of people (meeting area and kitchen as basics, possibly connected with restrooms). Marc has arranged a meeting with Art Dyson, Fresno architect and former dean of the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture in Scottsdale, Arizona (Taliesin West). In approx. 2002, Art brought students from Taliesin West to the North Fork Mill Site to do strategic planning for the redevelopment of the mill site with the North Fork Community Development Council. Perhaps he could do the same at Finegold. Marc plans to meet with Art at Finegold, Saturday, December 3, 2022. In addition, Steve Soenke will be there. Steve is a retired building contractor and project manager, close friend of John Hormann and has been at various Finegold events since the 1980's. Once we have plans, we can post on the website and begin fund raising. We're excited to look toward the future for Finegold.

Marc also shares the plans to have some educational programs, start with at least two events. Possibly the summer arts program, the other is educational event that might be a naturalist who might bring in some school children once or twice a year to learn more about the environment. Presently we would like to focus on the local children/students.

Eventually we want to give opportunity to intercity school children who have not had opportunity to experience the countryside.

Marc requests waivers signed for future educational participants.

Old Business:

On item added to the agenda:

Tom: the board has voted and approved an amended the original trust document to allow future amendments, approved and signed by Susie Hickman.

New Business:

Susie: was to present her vision for Finegold-We are sad to report Susie is unable to attend this year. The present board has met and worked toward strategic planning.

Ron Penland: suggests having the easter event deeded into the property to assure access to future easter events.

Question and Answers from the community: Mary reports no questions were received via email.

Sophie wants to add on the importance of assuring Susie's vision is present and included in future educational plans.

Ron Penland suggests an expanding Board where each member is focused on a different aspect of activity. Others suggest using a different organization model with involved community members who report to the Board.

Gilly suggests making a formation of the board that created sub committees to research and present feasibility report for each proposed event.

Motion made, seconded to Adopt an ad hoc committee in charge of program development. Motion made and second, all in favor, motion carried. Sophie Carrillo-Mandell, Shawn Hickman and Andrew Carrillo are all willing to volunteer in this capacity. All in favor. Motion carried

Jason Marshal has interest in being included in planning for the bathrooms and long house.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 4:30pm

Meeting Adjourned: at 1:12pm