

## Oak Spirit Sanctuary General Council Meeting: 2 January 2022

### Attendees:

Board members:

Patrick Finney (President)

Joshua Kirby (Secretary) attends for first 30 minutes.

Dawn Finney (Treasurer)

Madeline Wright

### Advisory Board Members:

Tom Chapin

Frank Griggs

Chuck Griggs

**Recording secretary:** Dawn Finney

**Meeting Facilitator:** Patrick Finney

Meeting called to order at: 7:03 PM

### Board or Relevant Organizational Activity since last meeting: November 11, 2021

No council meeting in December 2021

Newsletter posted to OSS Community page on December 1, 2021

No motions passed in intervening time between meetings.

Robyn Nall resigned from OSS committees on December 9, 2021.

## I. Departmental or Committee Reports

### A) Property Management

1. Land--no reports

2. Infrastructure:

a) Roof Repair Inquiries:

Several companies contacted, estimate received from Titan Roofing. \$3638.80 for roof repair as requested. Other companies were not interested in repair work, did not want to work on old farmhouses with chimneys as on retreat center after looking at it, would only do the work if it was a total roof replacement, lead abatement, some new siding (verbal quote of \$30,000.) Other companies were booked until spring or did not return calls of inquiry.

Follow up by posting estimate to AB page and ask Titan Roofing if financing options available. No current balance on credit card and access up to \$5,000, interest rate is about 15.5%

b) Blue Truck:

Motor is good

Known issue: Fuel tank problem, switch valve that goes in between tanks to fuel line. Need part and someone skilled to repair it. Frank Griggs offers to take lead on fixing truck in the Spring.

## c) Fire Chief wood stove:

Fan motor in fan sounds like it is straining. It had been repaired in past few years, not sure how many more times a repair will suffice. Fan unit likely needs full replacement by a professional.

Body of wood stove: Inside of wood stove starting to lose bricks. The unit has gotten too hot in the past, plates have gotten warped inside (not as much of a problem but could be if repeated.) Choice of wood makes it too hot (cedar, hedge apple, etc. small amounts ok but need hardwoods for slower burning wood)

Are bearings supposed to be sealed or oiled? Sealed bearings.

Whole system probably needs maintenance.

## d) Stihl chainsaw:

Saw is running strangely: works fine for some cuts but does not feel safe for others.

Matt and Chuck took saw apart in past to check "rattle." This is a spring-loaded transmission piece that is not working properly.

Stihl saw had been into Boonville dealer last autumn but this was just for routine maintenance. It will need to go to dealer shop for repair. Frank will take it in.

## e) Mowers

Chuck and Frank will stay in communication in spring about servicing of mowers.

## f) Scrap Metal

Chuck will provide contact information for James Holt.

## g) Hot water heater in retreat center:

Heater cores have been replaced and it was working. May be related to breaker boxes:

Two breaker boxes both with water heater breaker labels. These can be checked and to see what works or if something needs replacing in a breaker box.

## 3. Residential Land Steward Proposal

## a) Camper Installation

Camper has been moved onto OSS property for holding as there was a weather window to be able to easily move it from Frank's plot up to OSS. It has not been officially installed.

Electrical Hookup estimated to be \$300 to 400.

Grey Water Holding tank needs to be obtained

Heating and cooling systems need to be inspected. Frank states he will cover expenses of repair if needed

Camper will need some type of foundation: Gravel? Cement blocks? Cement slabs formerly by blue cabin that were moved to be base for house woodpile? Are there requirements from Missouri state law for base under camper/RVs?

Timeline of installation? More like springtime, but also consider cost of roof repairs.

Some expenses and/or supplies may be donated privately.

Follow up needed: Requirements for base, testing of air systems on camper (Frank)

## b) Draft of Residential Land Steward Contract.

Status of contract: In discussion in draft form on advisory board. Chuck has provided a new file, and Frank made comments in a thread. Madeline, Chuck, Frank--involved in drafting work on contract.

## B) Clergy

Met to make list of priorities, to work on code of ethics and statement of beliefs.

## C) Oak Scouts--no report

## D) Financial

### 1. Bills:

All December bills paid

January bills scheduled to be paid tomorrow 1/3/22

### 2. Regular Monthly outflows (December 2021 and January 2022)

- a) CoMo Electric: No payment in December as the co-op used "Capital Credit" for customers. January \$16.00. Normal fees expected for February
- b) Waste management 53.00 per month
- c) Apollo Porta Potty --January 50.00 for one potty clean out. 2 potties open for use the other 2 locked. Not anticipating needing a clean out in next month or two.
- d) Front Lot payment \$228.62 per month
- e) Wooldridge and Wooldridge: \$50.00 per moth
- f) Well Pump Loan #1 Dec/Jan: went to "winter maintenance payment mode" payment: \$50.00
- g) Well Pump Loan #2: Dec/ Jan : \$50.00
- h) Schnell Drilling: 100.00 per month (A total of \$1200.00 has been paid. Balance after January payment is: \$3020.00 not including financing fee. Of this, Bob James owes \$301 of it.)
- i) Zoom \$14.99 per month
- j) Bank Service fee: \$6.95 per month

### 3. Income

- a) Donation received in December of \$855.00 Not sure if person wants their name released. Anonymous at this time. They have been thanked and given receipt.
- b) Recurring monthly donations currently \$92.12
- c) Other income from Amazon Smile, Facebook donation campaigns people run, rental of outbuildings.

### 4. Current bank/cash assets: \$3521.69

5. Bob James still has not paid his share of well-pump repair. He owes OSS: \$301.43. A seventh invoice has been mailed to him for January.

## E) Fundraising

1. Two weeks behind on original schedule, but well positioned to do at least a soft launch as early as next week.

2. Five submissions for potential T-shirt designs. A survey will be going up this week to gather community input.
3. Incentive proposals
  - a) We have not yet settled on if or what another incentive item might be (coffee mug? Travel mug?). I have not gotten much feedback on incentive levels and am inclined to go with what we've done in the past.
  - b) The basic levels:
    - Minimum \$30 one-time donation gets a T-shirt
    - Minimum \$5/month recurring or an increase of \$1.50 to an existing recurring donation gets a mug
    - Minimum \$65 donation gets a T-shirt and a mug
    - \$100 donation or \$10/month gets T-shirt, mug & invite to appreciation dinner
    - \$125 donation or \$13/month get T-shirt, mug, & invite + 1 guest invite to appreciation dinner.
  - c) Various combinations of one-time + recurring option available as well.
4. Timeline: Once incentives are approved, we can announce the campaign even if the T-shirt design process isn't done. Any donations made between Jan 1 & March 21<sup>st</sup> count toward the campaign.
5. Vendor for printed items: If the costs are the same or lower than Fast Yowi we'd like to go with Sheep Dog Creations. Connection with Josh Kirby (family members business).
6. Naiya has agreed to help with "thank you's" and incentive distribution.
7. Leader involvement for donation: I would expect all members of leadership to at least minimally participate in the campaign (i.e. make a donation). The bandwagon effect is real.
8. Marketing: I have done some work on a case statement focusing on the impacts of COVID on the organization, which I will try to craft into one prong of what should be a multi-pronged marketing strategy. Others are encouraged to develop (and post) their own "reasons for giving."

**F) Legal**--Redacted upon council of lawyer

**G) Outreach / Social Media** --no report

**H) Policy Review Committee**

- 1) A note on the committee's membership. On December 9<sup>th</sup> Robyn Nall wrote to resign her role in the committee, and all involvement with OSS. Her resignation was effective immediately at that time. She was clear about the fact that she is not angry with anyone but did not elaborate as to her reasons. I assume her reasons are personal. We'd like to thank her for her very significant work at getting the current review process off the ground and as far along as it is.
- 2) Based on committee members' preferences we are now going to try and meet on Tuesdays at 7:30.

3) A copy of the policy committee's work to date on the "Cultural Expectations, Behavioral Standards, & Conflict Resolution" section was uploaded to the Advisory Board FB group. It is there for review and comment.

4) In looking at the current "Grievance Policy" section, the committee feels like much of that policy is actually procedure. A few things are or can be covered in other areas as well. Our recommendation is to significantly revise it and relabeled it "Corrective and Disciplinary Measures." This work is our current focus.

5) The committee will continue to revise section C and bring this for review and final approval when all sub sections are complete.

## II) New Board Business

### A) Updates and Announcements

1. Wanagi Miwakan turned in application for Advisory Board. Please review. Interview to be scheduled for Sunday January 9<sup>th</sup>. Time proposed: 7:00. Link will be made and posted once confirmed.
2. Shrine organizer spot open, Shrines are currently in ok shape

### B) Meeting attendance and involvement by all council members.

Some advisory board members have not been attending any meetings or been involved at all although there are stated requirements for this. Dawn will make inquires with members and ask them to assess their own involvement and interest in being on Council.

## III) Events

### A) OSS Events / Calendar

1. Calendar in final stages of review.
2. Decision for simplifying schedule due to the low number of people and assistance for planning and running them. If a month has a larger or main seasonal event, no other event that month (like a Lunar). E.g. Adult only Beltane with no Family Beltane later that month
3. Reports on previous events: Yule very nice, "good old-fashioned" time with lots of offers of help from participants. Much care felt from community.
4. Upcoming events: No events in January, February--Imbolc, March--Ostara: Dawn offers to organize Ostara planning, Madeline will help as needed.
5. Kirby will make individual events on OSS Facebook pages and Darcy can assist with making event pages on the website.

### B) Outside rentals --None

## IV) Any other new business / Miscellaneous

### A) Land visiting hours and communication on gate sign.

1. Issues with unknown persons asking to get into property from gate sometimes calling late at night, or at other times when no one is on the property. Need "visiting hours." Suggestion to use "park hours:" One hour after sunrise, one hour before sunset.
2. Do need phone numbers on sign due to utility access needed.
3. Have consistent policy for visiting and way to communicate this (QR code? Internet signal may not be available)

4. Encourage visiting during work days as “open house.”

B) Participation requirements for working committees:

1. Criteria for involvement may be different depending on kind of committee: Short term planning groups (like for events), longer term standing committees, and board groups.
2. Land Management page Some people enjoy working on land rather than attending events. Check in on Land Management page in the Spring. Then check in annually.

Motion to close meeting by Patrick, seconded by Madeline, motion passes, meeting adjourned at 8:55

Addendum: Payment received in full from Bob James in early January.