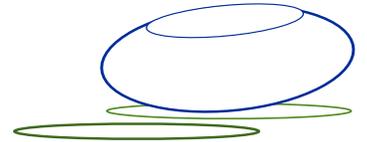


# Grail Council Monthly Zoom Call ~ MINUTES

## October 22, 2021



### The US Grail Council

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**Present:** Judith DeFour-Howard, Laura Kaplan, Thanh Nguyen, Deborah Sullivan, Marian April Goering and Terrie Puckett

**Opening Reading:** Thanh

Using a Buddhist Meditation Bowl, participants sat in silent reflection on the present and on our breath.

### Executive Director Report

**Drees sale and annexation:**

Terrie gave an update on the annexation of the Southside property by the City of Loveland. It goes before the County Commissioners Oct. 27 and is expected to pass easily. It is a misconception that this is a bad deal for Loveland.

Clermont County Parks are asking for funds from the state to improve parks and they are working with Drees to have a way to place bathrooms, etc. on the property.

Terrie answered questions about Loveland, water & sewer, traffic etc.

**Laura wanted to be on the record with two statements:**

1. “This sale is reprehensible – Drees is antithetical to Grail values – upper middle-class homes in a city that does not want them and destroying organic land and destroying sewer system that took great effort to develop  
Unseemly that Grail is advocating annexation to Loveland “
2. “Many Grail members worked for years to create state of the art sewer system and University of Cinti contributed \$\$ --Cherie Holman was on a subcommittee and didn't even know about sewage and dreams of members have been harmed.”

**Make environmentally sustainable sewer system report**

Laura – will make the report happen – she said it could be a time-consuming thing to do and would potentially need a budget.

April noted that there is a booklet about the sewage system that was used as an education tool. Hard copies are in the archives

Booklet should be digitized and publicized. What institutions should be informed and contacted? Mary Lu Lageman keeps files on this.

April said the sewage system was used for the capacity of the current buildings – tied to these buildings and uses. The technology and learnings have been used from the time it was developed. The system had Grail members objecting before it was built. It did not have sufficient use to work effectively and that created problems.

Laura said the committee could have asked for an environmentally friendly sewage system to be connected. She asked that the Grail not request annexation to the city of Loveland.

**To move on a vote was called. Proposed: The Grail should not go before City of Loveland entities or citizens to advocate for annexation of southside GV property.**

In favor – Laura, Judith

Against - Thanh, April & Deborah

**Decision** -- No vote was pertinent because the Grail has already approached these entities requesting annexation.

**Terrie** -- Clermont County commissioners are the only entity that will decide about annexation. That will happen 10.27.21.

### **International Gift Issue**

International gifts policy reviewed and developed last spring to comply with IRS regulations – we must decide whether international gifts count as meeting Grail member donation requirement.

**A vote was taken to send this to the Membership Committee and International and ask for their recommendation. It passed unanimously.**

### **Cornwall**

April asked that we publish recent major maintenance costs to repair sewer issue to help Grail members know what it costs to own the property we have.

Laura – asked to include information about CW rent and Grail staff costs – “if you put this info on the weekly news, include links to other financial information.”

Judith – maintaining a property is the responsibility of the landlord/ owner.

## **Cornwall Member Initiatives**

Terrie had conversation with RMM Director and they will meet with Grail members re: their ideas to see where they have common ground.

She recommended that Cornwall Dream mission initiatives be included in the 2022 budget – but they might change

**Recommendation** -- Cornwall Group will work with RMM to set up meetings in Bronx and in Cornwall –

Set aside block of money in budget to cover needs – based on what they have proposed do far.

How will the Grail approve projects that RMM / CW group agree to?

Trust the two groups to come up with plans together.

CW team put forward 11 proposals – there are 2 pdf docs with this info

**Terrie was asked to send the proposals again and all docs to make details clear for all projects**

Deborah requested an extra meeting to consider the budget – **Final 10.27.21**

## **Votes & Approvals / E-mail votes**

Deborah brought a list of all the votes and approvals by NLT and e-mail votes by Council since the beginning of the year. It was suggested that the list be available each month. Most of what Deborah does is already approved by Council or it is an approval to accept a bequest or process funds for international distribution. Every large movement of funds above a fixed amount requires NLT/Council approval.

## **Financial Statement for this month**

Thanh noted the good news that we are not in the red all the time – in large part due to bequests and to good staff work.

## **Closing: Judith**

Reading from Sean Covey, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*.

*The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining* – John F Kennedy