

U.S. GRAIL REPORT TO GRAIL NATIONAL COUNCIL

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UPDATES: The Grail

- As noted in June ED report regarding the work of the international gift committee: The committee will help draft the end of year letters and annual giving forms to accurately reflect options...brought up that maybe this means a change in what counts as “giving” to The Grail for membership purposes. I suggested that conversation be had in collaboration with MDET Committee. Unless Council wants to weigh in.
- Drees—the second disbursement from the escrow was released. Annexation process continues. You may have seen some comments on listserv. To clarify, 6 out of 7 Loveland City Council members are publicly supporting annexation. The 7th was “dropped” from the re-election slate and so is making noise in community about this and other issues to gain voter traction. There is a great video of the 9/28/21 City Council meeting of the detailed discussion about annexation.
- Financials—your packet has April and May getting us all caught up. As you all know, learning the complexity of the Grail financials is hard, so there will be some changes and corrections as Kathy comes up to speed. If you see September DRAFT Is in your packet. Even eliminating the large bequests received we are \$170k better than budget or 87%. This is from Drees payments, rental of Tidings, and not replacing finance manger position. Note, coming due will be the grounds company for Grailville summer months.
 - Receiving another large unrestricted bequest this week from Shellie Owens
 - Kathy’s stipend hasn’t been paid yet (we are tracking her time) for several reasons. We will pay her in a lump sum for the hours worked and then get her onto her “regular” stipend this week.
- SYAWI (summer young adult work initiative) ended in August. 18 participants from multiple schools took part. We went to an all-female model this year to eliminate some issues from co-ed programs, but we discovered new challenges to address in 2022 should the program continue. One goal is to do more activities around leadership and communication. There may also be some change to structure based on new emphasis from Department of Labor on differences between contractors and employees. Working with sources to understand the expected changes to policy and how it impacts SYAWI summer young adult work initiative.
- Budget—Mission Initiatives. I spoke with the ED of RMM about the Cornwall DREAM proposals included in the mission initiatives. He explained he does not decide the programming—the teams first decide their focus areas for the year then the programming. So he asked if he could have his teams do a daytrip to NYC to meet with our Cornwall DREAM folks to get to know them, and then meet with them again on their next garden work day an from those conversations, ideas may blossom and the proposals submitted discussed. I updated the group via Cindy Cheyne who is their contact. What this means for our budget process is that Council can still vote to ok some/all of the initiatives, and then we would do variances on the monthly report should they be modified, or we could approve a lump sum to be used or the projects that come from the collaboration between the teams.
- After speaking with insurance and legal, I have asked our attorney to draw up an MOU (memorandum of understanding) to govern the deconstruction of southside buildings prior to sale. The process will be managed by Drees from a list of interested parties we have given them. Taking down the buildings is the safest option we have. Drees managing it means they are responsible for insurance and other precautions.

UPDATES: Cornwall

- Major Maintenance continues. After the volcano of poo incident in June, the plumbers recommended we install blowouts along the sewer line. Since that was not an emergency it JUST started yesterday. Alas, they discovered that a section of the sewer line leading from Phoenix is crushed AND that the line to be fixed runs 9 feet directly below 4 giant cedar trees abutting the house. Remember, this kind of work would be happening regardless of who was using the building. It is the cost of ownership.
- RMM celebrated their 40th anniversary. I was invited and planned to attend, alas, my mom was readmitted to the hospital just before their event so I could not travel. It looked amazing and I was sorry to miss it. **A belated note from The Grail Council congratulating them would be a nice gesture.**
- It's time to get an appraisal of some of the furniture/art which was brought from CW to GV: 7 chairs, 1 table, and MAYBE the Charles White portfolio and the Sr. Mary Corita Kent prints. We do not have space to store everything and we keep having to move the furniture around to accommodate Oratory rentals. The furniture situation is like the Nakashimas—collected but not GRAIL. Reminder, any proceeds from the sales would go towards CW costs.

UPDATES: Loveland

- Break-ins have resumed on southside after a hiatus—see note above about deconstruction.
- Children's Meeting House still considering options for the 2023/24 school year. Asked about renting entire Oratory which I rejected.
- Tidings continues to be rented with the family having paid through 2021.
- The Art at the Oratory showcase featuring Sharon Thomson and Pones went really well. If you haven't yet, please watch the videos now on the Grails Youtube channel. The exhibit will stay up until Thanksgiving when it will be replaced with the indoor labyrinth and creche display.
- Children's Meeting House and Clermont Parks District and The Grail will be working on a covid-delayed project to create an environmental planning map for the neighborhood. The idea is to note what each organization wants to do and figure out how we can do so more efficiently as a collaborative. For example, connecting all the trails so guests can go from one end to the other without barriers.

Decisions Needed

- Who decides the member giving requirement?
- Can we approve the mission initiatives to include in budget?