Southside Security

Proposal

Consultants

11 responses

Gmail

National Office <office@grail-us.org>

Grail policy issues - my opinion

1 message

Carol Skyrm <ceskyrm@gmail.com>
To: The Grail Office <OFFICE@grail-us.org>

Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 2:27 PM

Thanks in advance for considering my views:

Bylaws change: I agree with the comments made by Carol Siemering, which I attach here for reference.

Education policy change: While I welcome the idea of supporting women to improve their education, I think we should limit the total amount for (non-Grail activities) tuition to $15,000 over a period of 2-3 years. If a specific case merited review, I would want that to happen. But otherwise, given our resources, we would not be able to help more than 5 women at the $20,000 level unless someone else leaves a bequest, since we don't ask for repayment with any interest.

I also think that there should be a clear link between the scholarship candidate(s) and the Grail. I would prefer that the candidate(s) be members, or at least Explorers. I would want to hear how their education would be used to benefit the Grail and its mission.

Grailville Southside Security: I continue to support the Finance Committee's recommendation that the four most-at-risk buildings be fenced. The cost would be about $29,300 for 12 months. I think we want to protect ourselves from liability if some trespasser is injured, and also to protect those four buildings, which are of the most interest to prospective buyers. I don't think we have the luxury of removing the vegetation to beautify these grounds, as that upkeep would have to be constant. The North side of the Grail's property will need maintenance funds for the foreseeable future, and if we are spending down our major maintenance fund, I would rather it be done there. I don't think the beautification would convince anyone in the small town of Loveland that the south buildings are being occupied. I don't think we can afford to spend our limited funds for this purpose.

As regards the three proposals, I request that Council hold off on taking any votes during December, as members probably want to give their input and they haven't had enough time. The only one of these items that is more time-sensitive is the fencing.

Thank you,
Carol

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To act joyfully brings joy to others which in turn makes one feel joyful. I believe we are called to the duty of delight.
- Dorothy Day

Proposed Grail Bylaws changes Dec 2022.docx
23K

Gmail National Office <office@grail-us.org>

Member consultation request

1 message

Elizabeth Robinson <elizabethrobinsonart@gmail.com> Sun, Dec 18, 2022 at 3:08 PM
To: National Office <office@grail-us.org>, Laura Kaplan <laurakaplan@igc.org>, Judith Defour Howard <edujoy@yahoo.com>, Judith Brown Leigh <judith.bleigh@gmail.com>, Sonia Jacquez <sonjieburd@hotmail.com>, Tina Kalala <bpKalala@gmail.com>, Thanh Nguyen <nguyentxuan3@gmail.com>, Sharon Wood <sw4sd@aol.com>

I agree in full with the points Elizabeth Murphy makes below regarding the three issues council has requested member feedback. I am very familiar with Grailvilles SS And am happy council is turning attention to ways to prevent further damage other than fencing.
Elizabeth Robinson

ITEM: SECURITY FOR
Dear Council,

ITEM: SECURITY FOR GRAILVILLE SOUTHSIDE BUILDINGS
I am happy to see that Council is focusing attention on preventing further damage from vandalism and natural elements. I have Inspected the area and the buildings on several occasions recently and I can say without hesitation that:
OPTION 1 – Clearing vegetation and subsequent maintenance is the BEST option.
Doing this serves three important purposes:

- It removes the greatly overgrown bushes, grasses, vines and sapling trees which now create plenty of cover for vandals to hide from police or others who may patrol.
- Removing over-grown vegetation will help preserve the buildings. The overgrown vegetation is literally attacking the structures. Vines make their way up walls infiltrating siding and other wood trim, sunken areas next to the foundation (causing water to seep into the cellar) cannot be accessed to be filled, Continually shaded structures remain damp which invites wood rot and mold.
- Last but not least, to keep the area looking cared for reflects well on The Grail, discourages any potential miscreants who think no one is paying attention, and importantly maintains a major capital asset of the Grail which is important whether we sell or keep the property. As a seller we should not want to downgrade our offering.

Why NO to fencing: All the fencing prices look to be for rentals and repeat every three or six months raising the *ongoing* cost substantially. Also, the vandals have been able to kick in steel doors and climb up walls to break in thru third floor windows, so it is unlikely fencing will slow them down much.

ITEM: BYLAW CHANGE
I support making the bylaw change requested by the Re-Visioning Team and now put forth by council. It will increase the ability of membership to help shape the way we as Grail organize ourselves. It will mean that our management structure will be more easily adaptable to evolving needs. It gives access to membership to initiate and complete this process, while maintaining Council's ability to participate. It assures all bylaw changes must be affirmed by a majority of voting members wo cast a ballot.

ITEM: MERGING SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
I support the streamlining of these two funds into one with consistent purpose.
I prefer that the larger $ dollar amount grants be in the form of LOANS, with no or very low interest.

Thank-you for consulting with membership on these issues.

Gmail National Office <office@grail-us.org>

My thoughts on Proposals #1, #2 and #3

2 messages

Mary Farrell <mkf@puck61.net> Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 10:41 PM
To: The Grail in the USA <office@grail-us.org>

Thanks for handling this process!

Best,

Mary

Reactions to Proposals ^N1^J ^N2 and ^N3.docx
14K

National Office <office@grail-us.org> Tue, Dec 20, 2022 at 10:27 AM
To: National Office <office@grail-us.org>

---------- Forwarded message ---------

From: **Mary Farrell** <mkf@puck61.net>
Date: Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 10:41 PM
Subject: My thoughts on Proposals #1, #2 and #3
To: The Grail in the USA <office@grail-us.org>

To: Council of Grail-US
From: Mary Farrell
Date: 19 December 2022

Thank you for soliciting the opinions of members as you consider multiple proposals. Herewith I submit my Reflections on the Council Proposals.

Proposal #1: Bylaw Change

I agree with the change proposed to allow amendments to the Bylaws to be initiated by 20 members. I agree that changes to the bylaws should be adopted by a simple majority of voting members after consultation involving an Open Member Forum. I believe that the second sentence should specify that Council or twenty (20) voting members may propose amendments, additions or revisions to the bylaws. I believe Beth Murphy's assurance that this was the intention of the proposal, but I am not sure the proposed language says so.

Proposal #2: Policy Revision concerning funding for Education

This proposal involves considerable change to the use of funds to support education of Grail members, Explorers or interested friends. While clearly the proposal arises from a generous impulse, I do not believe it presents clearly the consequences of the proposed levels of support. Too little time has been allowed for consideration of these implications, so I would request that Council defer action for at least one month for further member discussion and consideration.

Proposal #3: Southside Security

I continue to support the option proposed by the Finance Team [to fence the four most violated buildings – Caravansary, Hodie, House of Joy and Dining Room] and deconstruct the other buildings South of O'Bannonville Road, drawing the funds from either the Grailville Endowment or the Major Maintenance Fund.

[Quoted text hidden]

Reactions to Proposals ^N1^J ^N2 and ^N3.docx
14K

Gmail

National Office <office@grail-us.org>

Reply to Three Requests for Consultation

2 messages

Elizabeth Murphy <interface70@gmail.com> Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 4:19 PM
To: The Grail Office <office@grail-us.org>, Thanh Xuan Nguyen <thanhxuan@grail-us.org>, Judith Defour-Howard <edujoy@yahoo.com>, cynbernardez@gmail.com, Laura Kaplan <laurakaplan@igc.org>, Sharon Wood <sw4sd@aol.com>, judith brownleigh <judith.bleigh@gmail.com>, Sonjie Jacquez <sonjieburd@hotmail.com>

Hi Elizabeth,
Here is my reply to Council's requests for consultative responses. Thank-you for getting it into the right hands.
Also attached as a file.
Thanks.
Elizabeth Murphy

Response to Three Items Submitted for Consultation.
December 16, 2022

Dear Council,

ITEM: SECURITY FOR GRAILVILLE SOUTHSIDE BUILDINGS
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ITEM: MERGING SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Gmail

National Office <office@grail-us.org>

Re: BLAST: CONSULTATION Due Date

1 message

Beth Rosen <bethnrosen@gmail.com>
To: The Grail in the USA <office@grail-us.org>

Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 11:35 PM

Dear Council and Grail staff

I'm responding to the proposals concerning the security of the buildings on the Grailville South side.

First, I really appreciate your reaching out to membership for feedback. I also think its helpful for all of us to be kept informed about the issues that are arising from keeping the buildings as we try to agree on what to do. And the money that we're spending. However, this proposal, combined with the 2 other proposals, and the proposals for Cornwall, are too many for us to give any proper consideration! Especially during the holidays, when people tend to be busy and distracted. Please allow more time for consideration, including time that's NOT during the holidays. Also, I suggest considering bringing back the "circles", for us to discuss, reflect, and discern, at least for some of these issues. I just saw this proposal today, the day the feedback is due.

I hope you will explain why Council rejected the recommendations of the finance committee. Also, please explain why we're holding onto these buildings on the South side. I think we all have an attachment to them, but this proposal highlights our need to face our reality, and to figure out a use for these buildings, or to let them go. All of the currently proposed options are expensive, because they're temporary. THey'll need to be replaced or shored up in as little as 3-6 months. What will be different then? Will we be any closer to a decision? To me, these proposals highlight some of the costs of our inability to agree. I think that whatever option you choose, you need to have some deadlines, and limits. For example, that if we haven't agreed on a use for theses building by X date, we will move to "deconstruct" the buildings.

Of the proposed options, the first one sounds the best. Though frankly, they all sound shortsighted. We're kicking the can down the road. Perhaps a tour of the area for those of us who live nearby would be helpful, so that I/we can understand the situation better. And maybe a video for those who are farther away.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Rosen

On Dec 19, 2022, at 1:48 PM, The Grail in the USA <office@grail-us.org> wrote:

Gmail National Office <office@grail-us.org>

fencing issue my thoughts

1 message

Lucy Jones <lucyjones5265@gmail.com> Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 4:11 PM
To: Grail National Office <office@grail-us.org>
Cc: Thanh xuan Nguyen <nguyentxuan3@gmail.com>, Sharon Wood <sw4sd@aol.com>

I do not see the point of removing vegetation, so maybe I miss the point. I think it's mainly aesthetics? Perhaps it is more of an attractive nuisance with the vegetation there (are they trees? does it hide vandals?) The reality is the buildings are not being used, so why do we need to spend so much to pretend the buildings are usable?
I would prefer the 6 month option for fencing.
I hope I have grasped all the aspects of this. My true preference is to tear the buildings down. If we are not going to use them or make them usable for any other group who would buy the property then they will just continue to decay. Entropy is nature's way.
Best to you. I bless your efforts.
Lucy

Gmail

National Office <office@grail-us.org>

RE: BLAST: Members in hospice and CONSULTATION Due Date

1 message

Nancy Richardson <nancydrichardson39@gmail.com>
To: office@grail-us.org, graillistserv <graillistserv@googlegroups.com>

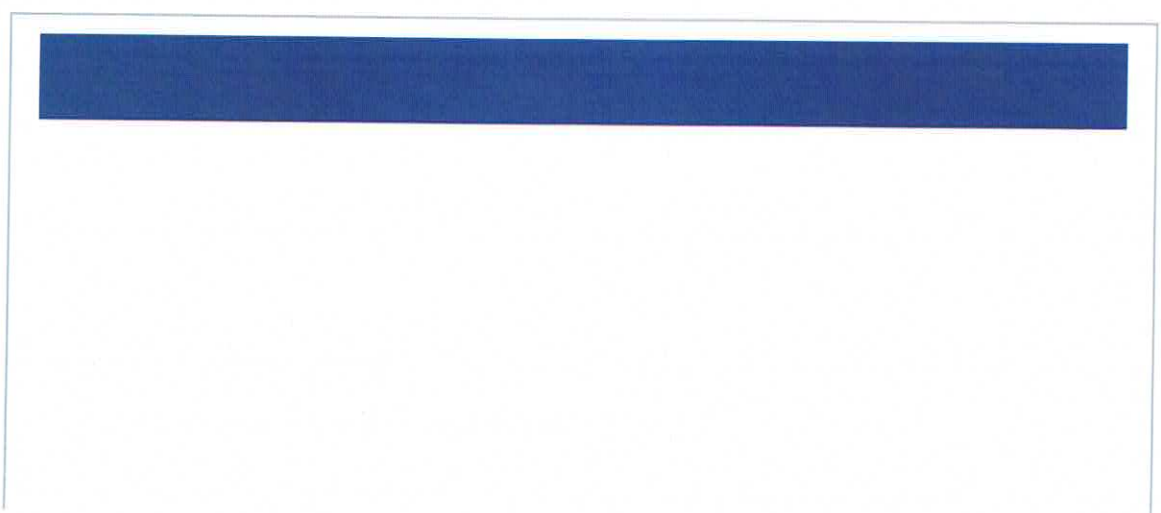
Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 7:38 PM

I think Council should re-evaluate the proposal of the Finance Committee which recommends "the thoughtful deconstruction of all the buildings of the South Side." With the exception of the "package" for selling the property on the South Side proposed by the Grailville Futures Committee in which all the buildings in the HUB would have been used by First Step Home for their addiction-recovery home for women and their children (approved, incidentally by a strong majority of members, but 4 votes short of a 2/3rds majority!), all other potential buyers intended to demolish the buildings. The recommendation of the Grail legal Cousel and insurance company is, without a doubt the best option at this point: both The Grail's legal counsel and insurance carrier have recommend the deconstruction of the buildings to ensure The Grail remains safe in regards to liability.

If Council is not able or willing to re-consider their vote to reject this recommendation, I think Option 1 is the best. The recommendations for fencing are piecemeal and will have to be continued indefinitely, as is the case for regular maintenance. Option #4 is outrageous, both in cost and implementation.

Nancy

From: The Grail in the USA <office@grail-us.org>
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2022 1:49 PM
To: nancydrichardson39@gmail.com
Subject: BLAST: Members in hospice and CONSULTATION Due Date



Gmail

National Office <office@grail-us.org>

Re: BLAST: Members in hospice and CONSULTATION Due Date

1 message

Pamela Cobey <pamela.cobey@gmail.com>
To: The Grail Council <office@grail-us.org>

Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 2:17 PM

I recommend removal of all buildings, please. We are all absentee landlords and we cannot maintain these buildings. Please. Thank you. Pamela Cobey

On Dec 19, 2022, at 1:48 PM, The Grail in the USA <office@grail-us.org> wrote:

Grail Members in **hospice**

CONSULTATION Due Date

Grail Members in **hospice**

Greetings all,

Lynn Louchart-Kiefer is in hospice in the home of a family. She became bedridden this week and has different people taking turns staying with her.

I was there in November; will return this month. I know that cards from those of you who know her (and anyone!) would be greatly appreciated.

Lynn Louchart-Kiefer
3100 N.Lakeview Dr.
Sanford, Mi 48657-9137

Advent hope and Christmas joy be yours.
Mary Kay Louchart

Bobbi (Roberta) Gill is in hospice at her home, and has been for at least a few weeks. A friend saw her the other day, and Bobbi was able to talk a bit and she is weak... Still has her sense of humor! She has many visitors, and they must be scheduled. She would love cards:

Gmail Administrative Office <admin@grail-us.org>

re. GV

1 message

Sally Timmel <sallyjtimmel@gmail.com> Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 11:35 PM
To: Office Admin <admin@grail-us.org>, Terrie Puckett <terrie@grail-us.org>, Thanh Xuan Nguyen <thanhxuan@grail-us.org>

Hi i think we should remove all the buildings on the southside -- or at minimum Option 4 -- major fencing. thanks, sally

Gmail National Office <office@grail-us.org>

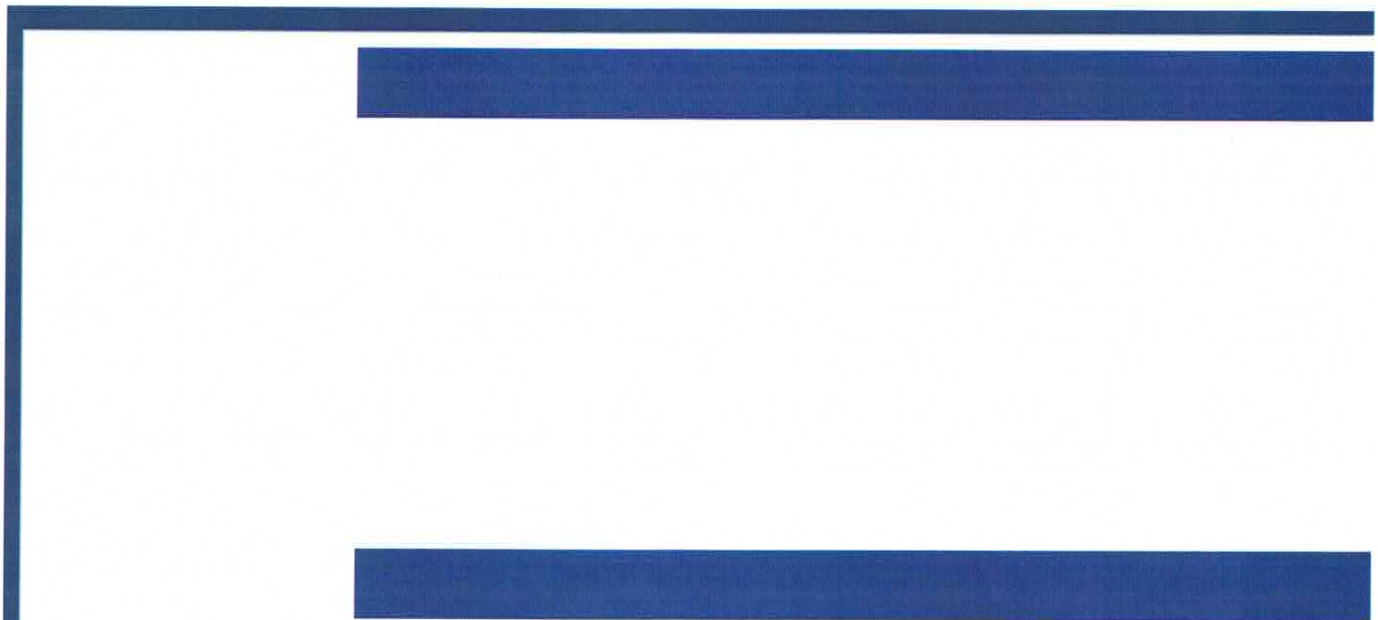
Re: BLAST: Members in hospice and CONSULTATION Due Date

terryys@earthlink.net <terryys@earthlink.net> Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 3:36 PM
To: office@grail-us.org

I agree with Beth Murphy that fencing would not be a good option—too easy for folks to climb, or break down, therefore not a good use of funds. I believe Option 1—total removal of vegetation and annual maintenance of that removal would be the best way to go. It would also be the nicest to look at and make the property more attractive to future users.

Terry Marshall

From: The Grail in the USA <office@grail-us.org>
Date: Monday, December 19, 2022 at 1:48 PM
To: terryys@earthlink.net <terryys@earthlink.net>
Subject: BLAST: Members in hospice and CONSULTATION Due Date



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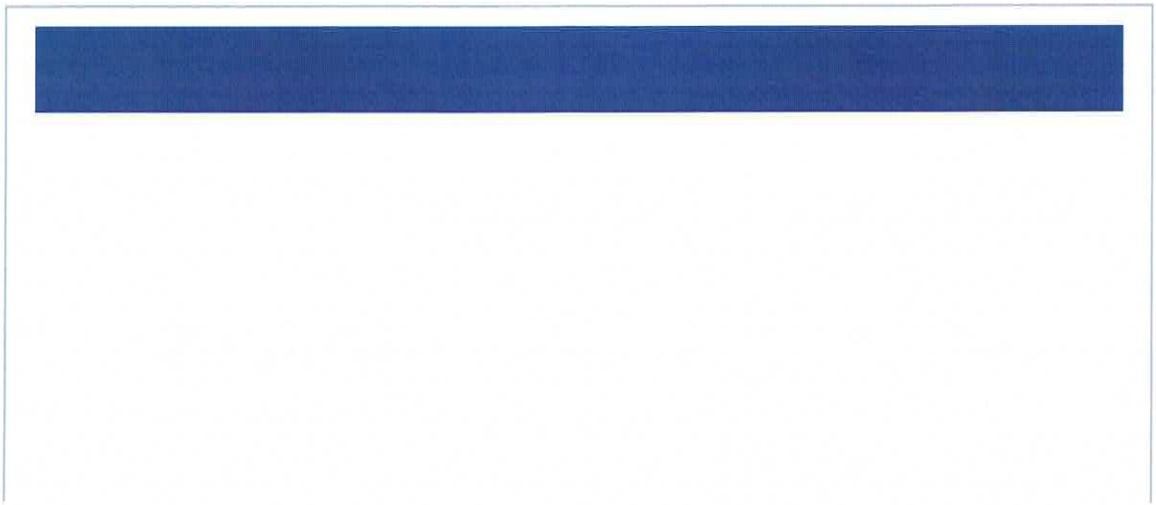
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