Underground Railroad Education Center Board Meeting October 18, 2022

In attendance: Ron Gardner, Sam Fein, AnnMarie Hess, David Hochfelder, Kai Marion, Brenda Twiggs, Mary Liz Stewart, and Paul Stewart

1. Ron Gardner called the meeting to order.
2. The June 2022 and September 2022 minutes were reviewed. Paul would clarify David abstention on the vote to raise the ED pay to full time. The Board postponed review of the minutes until the October meeting. Sam moved to accept the minutes, and Brenda seconded the motion. All approved.
3. Financial Reports
   1. Paul described the financial reports distributed. The P&L Comparison January – June 2022 shows a gross profit of $158,281.12. The Total Liabilities and Equity as of June 30, 2022, is $1,258,209.52.  AnnMarie motioned to approve the financial report, and Kai seconded the motion. All approved.
   2. An Executive Board Meeting will be held to discuss the proposed offer by Paul and Mary Liz Stewart to loan funds to the UREC to provide financing for the Interpretive Center. This item was tabled for an executive session.
4. Executive Director Report
   1. UREC was awarded a $5,000 grant from the Pomeroy Foundation for programming.
   2. Paul and Mary Liz were invited by the National Park Service to speak at a workshop during the Annual Association for the Study of African American Live and History.
   3. Seven Guitars performed at the Myers Residence. Sixty people attended. Proceeds will be split with the Callaloo Theatre.
5. Committee Reports
   1. Daniel Stewart Memorial Fund – Three applicants have been identified. An awards ceremony will be held in November.
   2. Freedom Fest will not be held in 2023. The committee is considering other strategies.
   3. Building and Property Committee- The architectural designs developed by Hamlin Design have been provided to Turner Construction to generate a cost estimate. The loan from Pioneer Bank is on hold pending action by the Board.
6. Old Business
   1. Organic Farming Initiative – Ron will arrange a meeting with Jennifer Dunn and Joan Snyder to discuss possible collaboration.
7. New Business
   1. Tax Credits for apartments – The plans for the UREC Interpretive Center includes two apartments. The Board is encouraged to share information related to tax credits with the Paul and Mary Liz.
   2. Stephen Myers to be inducted into the National Abolitionist Hall of Fame in Peterboro, NY.
8. Closing. The meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 15, 2022.