



The Starfish Foundation Annual Meeting Saturday, January 11, 2025 10:00 a.m. MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 10 am.

In attendance: Patricia Clason, Dianne Young, Michelle Hawley, Becky Yunk, Mark Spindler, Dawn Winters-Bowers, Mary Harvey, Rheanna Smith, Rosie Wolbrink, Shedy Kyle, Michelle Frost, Tony Cesario, Brittany Baker

- A. Welcome Members – Robert Frost (President)
- B. Mission Statement – Robert Frost (President)
 - a. Mission: Assist emotional trauma survivors to release their grief, rage and shame; and allow joy, productivity and prosperity back into their and their family's lives.
 - b. Primary Goal: To offer transformative Healing Warrior Hearts retreats for veterans, facilitating emotional healing. We provide these retreats and other veterans' programs, at no cost to the veterans, by securing funding through donations, grants, and other resources.

We also offer scholarships for the Taking It Lightly and Renewal programs for trauma survivors, ensuring accessibility for all individuals seeking emotional healing and trauma recovery.

- C. Annual President's Report – Robert Frost (President)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xrkH1E5OaGRYKGV4uG8yFrn4y8PQUpgN/view?usp=sharing>

Included in 20250111 Meeting Addendum - Report Documents - use this link:

https://6da90b53-cf48-49db-8398-c159a22c80f3.usrfiles.com/ugd/6da90b_8c62409303ff4500917247d4e482dd71.pdf

- D. Annual Financial Report – Mark Spindler (Treasurer) **Rob, for the corporate minute records, the full report should be included. You can make it an addendum to the minutes so the overview of the meeting is shorter.**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DWX9Jlrx1lZlQ4VT-l7119l1pUWWiMqZ>
financial statements

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1woMg6sUl_c3eh57_H6Ek9rkWny4_PDMV/view?usp=sharing
treasurer's report

Included in 20250111 Meeting Addendum - Report Documents

- E. Annual Fundraising Report – Robert Frost (President)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1B4D3K_WzGvJEKT6z4JVcGHGpTgcOL8GhEupH1xW3PHo/edit?usp=sharing

Included in 20250111 Meeting Addendum - Report Documents

- F. Business Meeting – Robert Frost (President)

- a. Election of new Board Members

- i. Seven candidates and nine open positions (vote for slate)

1. Becky Yunk (renewal – 2nd two-year term)
2. Laura Nitschke (renewal – 2d two-year term)
3. Rheanna Smith (two-year term)
4. Dawn Bowers-Winters (two-year term)
5. Rosie Wolbrink (one-year term)
6. Mary Muse (one-year term)
7. Sheady Kyle (two-year term)

- ii. Two-year term (2025-2026) v. One-year term (2025)

- iii. Time to vote

1. In-person voting – via slate
2. Unanimous approval

- b. 2025 Planning – Robert Frost (President)

- i. Upcoming events – HWH Event full schedule

1. Dare to be Aware Fair – Saturday, April 12, 2025
2. Milwaukee Milkmen Game – Sunday, July 20, 2025
3. Fill the Boat – Whiskey Ranch Delavan, December 2025
4. Operation Grateful Giving, Christmas time, 2025

- c. Get Involved – Robert Frost (President) shared information on events, opportunities to support outreach, staffing retreats, staying connected

- i. Register to Staff a Weekend (dates set – sign up online)

1. Healing Warrior Hearts
2. Taking It Lightly

- ii. Monthly FUNdraising Meetings (1st Thursday of each month) @ 6:30 p.m. CST

- iii. Monthly Healing Warrior Hearts Meetings (4th Tuesday of each month) @ 6:30 p.m. CST

- iv. Staff Event Tables (not exhaustive list)

1. Locust Street Days
2. Summer Festivals (Mexican Fiesta, Irish Fest, etc.)
3. Milwaukee County Zoo
4. Neighborhood Nights Out

- G. Close of Annual Meeting – Annual meeting was followed by a lunch and Starfish Foundation Board Meeting.

HWH - Milwaukee	Center for Creative Learning	HWH - Houston
Jan. 24-26 HWH all vets	Feb. 7-9 Taking It Lightly	Feb. 28-02 HWH Couples
March 21-23 HWH MST	May 30 - June 2 Taking It Lightly	May 16-18 HWH
June 27-29 HWH all vets	Sept. 5-7 Taking It Lightly	Oct. 3-5 HWH
Aug. 8-10 HWH Couples		
Sept. 19-21 HWH MST		
Oct. 24-26 HWH LGBTQ+		

STARFISH FOUNDATION BOARD MEETING

Board meeting started at 12:30 p.m. CST

Fathom transcript for reference purposes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t6X-aq25zDtGOqtGYXk22DhCZH6QEPKWaxiTJGI1J68/edit?tab=t.0>

In Attendance:

Board Members: Rob Frost, Mary Harvey, Becky Yunk, Mary Harvey, Mark Spindler, Rheanna Smith, Shedy Kyle, Dawn Bowers-Winters

Other: Patricia Clason, Dianne Young, Tony Cesario, Britney Baker

Absent: Laura Nitschke, Rosie Wolbrink, Mary Muse

A. Nomination and Election of 2025 Officers:

- a. President - Mary M. nominated Rob Frost; Becky seconded
- vote unanimous (Rob abstained)
- b. Vice President - Rob Frost nominated Rheanna Smith; Shedy seconded
- vote unanimous (Rheanna abstained)
- c. Treasurer - Rob Frost nominated Mark Spindler; Shedy seconded
- vote unanimous (Mark abstained)
- d. Secretary - Rob Frost nominated Mary Harvey; Becky seconded
- vote unanimous (Mary abstained)

B. Established Date/Time for Monthly Board Calls (currently the board meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. CST)

- a. 2025 Meetings are 2nd Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. CST

Local Board members agreed to attend in person if they're available. Board members will respond when each agenda is sent out if they're planning on attending that meeting in person.

Rob sent out calendar invites for the full year's schedule.

C. Established Date/Time for Full Board Orientation Meeting (for new board members – all members welcome to attend)

- a. Meeting was held on January 3rd for all nominees.

D. Review 2025 Events Schedule & Fundraising Planning

- a. Patricia led the conversation about 2025 Calendar of Events
 - i. Review the schedule and mark your calendar for events you intend to support

Becky volunteered to learn more about fundraising and ways she can support. Plus, to be the board liaison for social media.

Rob agreed to do the NFG maintenance for removing bounced emails and extremely lapsed donors and non-donors from our communication database.

Discussed NFG campaigns. Rheanna agreed to help with the campaigns. Rheanna and Patricia will set up a time to meet to review the NFG site.

Becky mentioned again she's willing to send out cards thanking volunteers.

Becky and Brittany also volunteered to write cards, notes to potential donors with a donation request.

E. Asking for Advisory Board Members:

- a. Inquire about Michael Whitt from Catchafire to be on our advisory board.
Michael accepted to be on the advisory board.
- b. Inquire about Eric Coryell to be on our advisory board.
Eric declined due to current workload. He suggested we ask again next year.

Moved to approve: Becky Second: Mary H. Unanimous Approval: Yes

F. Follow-up Calls to grads - Shedy has agreed to do the follow-up calls after retreats, welcoming grads to the community, asking for GreatNonProfits.org testimonials, encouraging them to be a part of the community (staffing and other events). **Patricia suggested setting up a campaign in NFG to send follow-up emails to retreat attendees (email campaign to be sent after Shedy makes her connection with them after the retreat).**

Shedy & Patricia have set up a meeting to discuss these tasks on Jan 27th.

- G. Working Genius assessment: We reviewed information and discussed how to keep everyone on task with one galvanizer.**

Working Genius Spreadsheet:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zAyDtfHveLJL107bqXZFA7sa4EJe1Su5/edit?usp=sharing&oid=114852270597019078601&rtpof=true&sd=true>

- H. Rock-a-Flock - We will need a new champion for this project. Fundraising committee will be looking for a volunteer in February to start planning**

Patricia suggested that we locate a veteran (retired?) who might be interested in doing the flock delivery and pick-up

- I. Annual Timeline - Needs to be reviewed and updated before the next Board Meeting 2/12. (Patricia, Dianne, Rob, Rheanna) Rob will send out an email to coordinate a time.**

Check-outs

Meeting adjourned at

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Frost, President

Reminders:

Put agendas out a minimum of 48 hours before meeting and state reply needed re: in person or zoom attendance?

Send out meeting invites for all meetings for the year.