

Friends of the Wapsi Center Minutes
Thursday, February 18th, 2010
Gander Mountain 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Mike Granger, Dave Murcia, Carol Rogers, Amy Newman, Bill Robbins, Ingrid Bogdanowicz, Connie Huber and Erma Wiszmann

Minutes: Approved as mailed.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance \$9,406.22. Have deposited \$878.00 received as a donation. Money to deposit from Winter Fun Day donation, donation from Jacquie Stepaniak, and Quad Cities Women's Outdoor Club. The Schnuck's grocery program is working and coming in as a direct deposit. 8 members are currently in the fundraiser program.

Staff Report: LeRoy is back on duty. Bald Eagle days had 1500 participants on the education day. Our Great Horned Owl was a great hit and our booth was well located. Roger Kean mentioned we need to use our PA system.

Winter Fun Day was well attended. For the ski clinic 14 were in attendance. Bob Bryant attended and assisted with the skiing. Mike followed with a twiggy deer class. The chili cook-off was won by the scouts who attended. The AmeriCorps girls taught about winter bird feeding, and handed out suet recipes, and did a crossword. Mike did a snowshoe hike. There were about 15 people at each event. We have had trouble with the pop machine with freezing and have contacted the supplier to get a new machine. The contractors have placed a new chimney cap on the roof of Red Tail Lodge. There is an upcoming training for staff. The Staff is going to the Iowa Association of Naturalists in Washington County. When people check out ski equipment the friends members are asked to take an ID to keep until people have checked the equipment back in. Ski maps are at the counter and Amy has written up instructions for issuing our equipment out. We need to update the current friend's members list. The Friends website will have volunteer voices on it and we will have Amy upkeep the new ideas. Dave will keep a list of needs for the volunteers to keep for interns and College students. Dave mentioned using the facilities for the friends on a work day. Maybe have a project list – attendees could pick a project, have a potluck the same day and maybe stay in the dorm in the evening. There is mold in the fawn display and it needs to be opened and cleaned. Mice also got into the swan display, Mike, Dave cleaned it up and added moth balls to keep the critters away. Tom Greene is doing his maple syrup class on February 27th and March 6th. Erma moved that we pay Tom \$100.00 for the presentations. Seconded by Dave and motion carried. We discussed a backup person to handle Carol's duties. Carol moved that Bill Robbins fill the position. 2nd by Dave and motion carried. The account is at First Midwest Bank. A Great Horned Owl has been seen the I74 bridge. A retreat will be held from 8 AM to 8 PM in Red Tail Lodge – on February 20th. Money has been allocated to develop the large pond. A contractor has made quotes. Clearing and work on the dam will include cleaning brush. We are not sure yet how the pond will be lined. When completed we hope to have 2 – 4 acres to do canoe and kayaking.

Next Meeting is on Thursday March 18th – 7:00 P.M. at the Wapsi Center