

**Friends of the Wapsi Center Minutes**  
**February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013, 7:00 P.M. – Gander Mountain**

**Present:** Carol Rogers, Dave Murcia, Connie and Dave Huber, Bob Bryant and Erma Wiszmann \\Jill is off until April – Mike excused for the evening.

**Minutes:** Carol moved approved. Dave Murcia 2<sup>nd</sup> – Unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report:** Checkbook balance \$7518. 48. This includes Escrip from Schnucks of \$83.41. We also have CD's.

**Staff report:** Seasonal workers are back. Leroy and Aaron. A new naturalist has been hired. She is a graduate of Simpson and starts next Tuesday. Her name is Casey Becker. Ediwild planning is in progress. The theme is: Prairies. If Registration costs don't cover honorariums – can the Friends group cover? We will discuss later. With Staff Training – we have attended fire refresher held by the Iowa DNR in Dubuque. Also attended a watershed meeting at Nahant. The County is setting up a new fleet software webinar. We will have 2 new interns from St. Ambrose Mon, Wed and Friday. We will develop a turtle cart. Staff will attend the Iowa Association of Naturalist in Dubuque in March. Bird Feeder is still quite full. Are surveying for Hazardous trees. The Dorm Parking lot is cracking with winter wear. The Great horned Owl is back to normal and is eating Muskrats we are getting from Cedar County at no cost. There is plumbing trouble in our cabin and is slated to be replaced as a Single Family Cabin. Had a water line problem in Redtail – plan to replace a waterless urinal for ice or snow problems. We have shovel and Ice melt supplies near the entrances. In keeping tabs on the Septic no discharge is showing up. Under Education- the W.R.E.N. will be out next week. There was no snow for skiing or snowshoeing. We are participating with other departments on Healthy Life Style. Have applied for Suitcase Survival Program, haven't heard back yet. In November and December programs carried out with NO cancellations. January 8<sup>th</sup> Bald Eagle Days the final count not made yet. Cross Country skiing cancelled lack of snow. January school groups well attended. Spring Fun set for April 27<sup>th</sup>. Had letter of appreciation for support of the Rock Creek Holiday Tree. Maps are being updates and will include direction to reach First Responder by 911. Have decided on Crabapple for the Gerwulf Tree. Aaron is working on the Friends website-plan more interactive postings. Volunteer sign-up sheet circulated, Next meeting of Friends at Bettendorf Library at 7:00pm-followed by the Wild Edible program at 7:30pm-open to the public. Reminders for Volunteer Hosts reviewed. Miscellaneous discussion on presence at Libraries Eastern and Fairmount- Creek freaks program at Friendly House- May 4<sup>th</sup>- Garlic Mustard Pull. Connie reported on Master Gardener workshop June 25<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup> of 2014. Requested whether Wapsi Center might want to participate- expect 300 to 500 in attendance. Bob suggested something on Fern Gardens. Carol thought Audubon might bring Bird Feeders.

**Next Meeting:**

**Thursday, March 21st, 2013 – 7:00 P.M. – Gander Mountain**  
**Join Us Afterwards for a Wild Edibles Power Point – 7:30 P.M.**