

Friends of the Wapsi Center Minutes

September 19th, 2013

Wapsi River Center - 7:00 P.M.

Present: Dave Murcia, Mike Granger, Carol Rogers, Warren Wiese, Ingrid Bogdanowicz, Bill Robbins, Lucia Dryanski and Erma Wiszmann, Kyle Moeller.

Minutes: Approved as mailed.

Treasurer's Report: \$9,422.30 in Checking Account plus 2 CD's

Staff Report: Jill is doing a program for the Issac Walton League. Have a full staff. We have hired 3 seasonal naturalists – Ashely Van Spaybroeck, Becky Horton and Emily Warren. Becky will work 20 hours per week, Ashley and Emily will work 30 hours a week for 48 weeks a year. Have worked on invasive species on the prairie. There will not be a youth deer hunt this season. The Pond level is dropping. We have hundreds of tadpole and frog lets out there. They think there might be sand vein below the clay level but have not located it. Need to correct this fall and may have to add bentonite which is fine clay used to seal leaking ponds. Discussed bull frogs as invasive and will eat anything including smaller frogs. As will raccoons. We reviewed Ecology day. The theme is “Hunter Gatherers”. We will have a session on atlatl's, tag monarch butterflies and harvest seeds. We haven't had any chemical discharge show up in the septic tests. The handicapped spaces are painted and signed. As small wedding was held at the amphitheater with a reception held at Red Tail. We will host the county leadership summit in October. The rental cabin is shut down. A new cabin will be built on site. It will have a steel roof, be energy efficient, be handicapped accessible. It will have concrete board to prevent woodpecker damage and have skylights. No pets will be allowed. The WREN is up. Our new aquatic display is up. September school programs filled up to the end of the month. October is being booked up with school groups. Kayak Program cancelled due to low water levels. Have a new ornate box turtle. Keep quarantined d for a period, of time. There is an all-out state ban on wood due to the emerald ash borer. Eagle scout project will be to build some new rod holders. The Wala plaque designed is approved. Dave moved to spend \$4501.00 or slightly over if needed. 2nd by Carol. Motion passed. The vote was unanimous to provide a lunch for Ecology Day. Lucia will do a soup and salad. Carol will bake cookies and have bread and sandwich fixings. We may have 50 boy scouts on site. The Great horned owl is eating 1 Rat and 1 medium mouse. The mice for the birds will be in the small refrigerator. A Question was discussed whether or not to keep the GHO. Staff seems OK with it. Erma said she will not feed it when she volunteers. Jolinda Burr is sponsoring the Tree Frog. A check was turned over to Carol Rodgers. The next Meeting is October 17th at the Wapsi Center – 7:00 P.M. Some possibilities for Fundraisers were discussed. October 5th Bill and Lucia are having a party starting at 3:00 P.M. Kyle Moeller – our past intern offered some suggestions for a Halloween event at the Wapsi Center on October 26th. This will be reviewed further for a final plan.

Next Meeting
Thursday, October 17th, 2013
7:00 P.M. – at the Wapsi River Center.