

Friends of the Wapsi Center Minutes
Thursday, November 21st, 2013
6:00 P.M. – Gander Mountain

Present: Carol Rogers, Dave Murcia, Jill of Clinton County, Mike Granger, Erma Wiszmann.

Minutes: Approved as Mailed – M/ by Erma, 2nd by Mike – unanimous

Treasurer's Report: \$8,819.98 plus CD's. Have mailed check to Melissa Jacobsen for the River Cleanup and \$200 to Interfaith for an Add in their program.

Staff Report: Becky, Ashley, Emily and Mike attended Wickiup hill for a lesson on Wickiup construction. Mike and Dave have gone through a lifestyle screening, which tests for risk factors. The county paid for this. Dave attended software and operations meeting. Money from the donation Box and a friends donation were passed to the treasurer. Lyondell Basell, made a donation of \$4,000 from this chemical company as an education donation. Wapsi River Center has submitted the county fiscal year budget for 2015. Have asked for another full time naturalist. Jill Reported for Clinton County and has had some training with Chad Pregracke and his Educational Barge. Jill has been teaching the North East 8th Grade on Eco foot print and ecology. Next June they will do a program on "Fishing has No Boundaries" at Rock Creek. They have been attending meetings once a month with Allie McGraw. They will have 15 participants on shore and in Boats. Jill requested people to help for this event. We need special equipment such as handicap rears. They will target for kids 12 years and older. They also need boats and volunteers. Out of state residents have to have a license. This will run from 8A.M. to 3P.M. The event is planned for Iowa's free fishing weekend. Donations will be welcomed. On our Wapsi Grounds the pond has had trouble holding water. A retired professor is conducting an investigation. At this point they believe that Carste Limestone is under the Pond and is very porous. There is need for further investigation. May need to relocate or line with special clay. Expect to replace the entire well and water system at the Wapsi Center. HQ has allocated 68,000 for this project. Our water system is very old and is still from the Boy Scout era. It may not even be meeting current water standards. The Dorm discharge is meeting proper levels. Bird feeder is filled. Boy Scout Tristan Rhodes has completed Red tail Lodge porch painting. He also made new fishing racks. Kestrel Cabin will be gone and a new foundation has been started. We hope to have it ready by spring. The cabin will meet American Disability requirements. The New cabin will have on demand water, heater and a metal roof, with natural lighting. It will be insulated and will accommodate a family unit. We have a new fish tank display at the center. In October the Wapsi Center saw 15 groups on site and 6 groups off site. The WREN is out. The Bald Eagle Days will be January 10th – 12th. The Halloween Hike was really successful, led by Lucia, Kyle and Mike. The Friends group was approached to consider a bus grant for Earth Week Fair On April 24th, 2014. We will review for later action. Wapsi Center will be closed on the 28th and 29th of November – Happy Thanksgiving!

Next Meeting – 6:00 P.M. at Gander Mountain – December 19th, 2013