

**Friends of the Wapsi Center**  
**Minutes: Meeting, January 15, 2015**

**Present:** Carol Rogers, Bill Robbins, Mike Granger, Bob Bryant, Lucia Dryanski, Ingrid Bogdanowicz, Dave Murcia and Erma Wiszmann.

**Minutes:** Approved as mailed.

**Treasurers Report:** Checkbook Balance of \$7061.35 and two CD's. The Balance is after we paid for the snow shoes. We have had a few contributions. Clearing of trees from the storm damage continues. Brigman lumber mill and Atkins tree service have made offers which include replanting. When we get to replanting there will be hardwoods like oaks, hickory and walnuts. If we don't do hardwoods the softwoods will take over. Dave attended several meetings. The employees went through the youth protection training from the Scouts. We were awarded the 3,000 Basell Education Grant. Dave and Mike went through the employee evaluation process. Leroy will return in February. The Bird feeder has been filled. The ADA clothes racks have been installed in the cabin. They must be 48 inches off the ground. The dorm sewer discharge is meeting DNR levels. At the cabin the visitor's Journal has been established for comments. We have had two groups at the center for training and two groups off site. Dean Hurliman has donated 4 bird carvings to our center. The WREN has been published which includes a calendar of events. Winter Fun Day is on February 7<sup>th</sup>; on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February there will be a Citizen Science program. A new Brochure is being planned. SOAR is sending us a new Screech Owl in the Grey phase. She has a bad wing. Research shows the Male American Kestrel is 19 years old. We acquired it in 1996. Bob reported that \$200 dollars was left to the Friends Group from Shelli Taque, when he retired. It is agreed that it will be spent on a beehive at the Nature Center. With trees gone and damaged at the Center, a concern was brought up about the eagle night roost. Bald Eagle days was held in Rock Island at the Expo Center. We had a group of RSVP volunteers. One elderly person even showed a black rat snake. Tom Greene will be doing a 2 Maple syruping programs this spring. Lucia moved that we pay him \$100 for the programs. 2<sup>nd</sup> By Dave. Motion Carried. For Staff Development training Bill moved the friends fund 2 people to certified Interpretative Guide Training. The cost includes manuals held in Linn County. The Friends agreed to fund the cost of \$360 per person. This is a program for 3 Days. The Motion was seconded by Erma and the motion carried. There is a Fish Iowa Program during February. A Frog and toad survey training will be in the spring. Mike Duaber has provided 25 muskrats for our Great Horned Owl. Erma moved that the Friends pay mike \$50.00 for his supply. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ingrid. Motion Carried. Friends were reminded of the Manuals at the Reception Counter. Discussed winter equipment use. Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> the Center is Closed. Wapsi Center has received a \$500,000 Endorsement from Fred Lorenzen.

**Friends Next Meeting is on:**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup> – WEST LAKE PARK - Gate #3 - At 6:00 P.M.**

Meeting ended with the reminiscing on the renovation of Redtail Lodge and the Eco Center from the Boy Scout Days.