

# **Friends of the Wapsi River Center**

## **Minutes: February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **6:00 P.M. at West Lake Park**

**Present:** Carol Rogers, Dave Murcia, Jo Noon, Bill Robbins, Ingrid Bogdanowicz and Erma Wiszmann (Mike Granger – ill) George Bentrrott (Visitor)

**Minutes:** Erma moved that minutes be approved. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jo Noon. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Check Book Balance \$7,253.81 included E Script money from Schnucks. Also have 2 CD's.

**Staff Report:** Murcia Attended Nahant Marsh meeting. Nahant is supported by a mix of several entities. Murcia and Emily Santiago attended CIG training in Linn County in March. Leroy is back for the season. Cabin rental going well and the Dorm and Redtail are busy too. Sheriff Deputies have been stopping by regularly. The St. Ambrose intern is working on a degree in Biology. She is planning a pollinator garden. We want to attract hummingbirds and bees. We have ordered 3 pounds of bees with a queen. Bee display will be ready by April. We will plant new plants by our bird feeder. Money was turned into Carol Rogers: \$69 from Pop money / \$20 Donation / \$20 from Lynn Burr for tree frog / \$ 35 from Rose Bebbe donation / \$10 from Gift Shop.

The storm damage trees are still being worked on. Friends raise and lower heat when in the center. Discharge at dorm still meeting requirements. Bald eagle days were well attended and very successful. Since the last meeting there were several groups at the center. 7 groups offsite with a total of 1000 students coming through. Next week 2/26 is FISH IOWA training. 2/28 is Cocoa Picasso. 2/28 and 3/7 will be maple syruping by Tom Greene. The new screech owl has arrived. It is flighty but working well. The beehive will be installed on the display wing of the Eco Center. In the winter the bees will need supplements. Local farmers spraying chemicals can only do so during certain hours as covered by law. A new brochure is being planned. 133 persons attended Winter Fun Days (this is number of people added up at each program). Skiing, Snowshoeing, bird feeding, and furs were presented. 25 people participated in the Chili Cook-off. When hosting, please follow the manual for equipment use. County has approved acquiring new skis and boots. Host volunteer sheet was passed around. The pop machine has a problem. The phone number will be posted at the desk if you encounter a problem. A problem with a lock box to the New Cabin may be because of the cold temperatures in winter time.

**Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – 6:00 P.M --Wapsi River Center.**