

Friends of the Wapsi Center Minutes

Thursday, April 16th, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.

Present: Carol Rogers, Dave Murcia, Ingrid Bogdanowicz and Erma Wiszmann

Minutes: Approved as mailed.

Treasurer's Report: Checkbook balance of \$6591.15 plus two CD's. Gift shop proceeds and Donations passed to treasurer. New Turtle tank bill presented to Treasurer for payment. Staff Report: Dave Murcia attended the Nahant Operations Meeting. A junior conservationist camp is being planned. Scholarships are \$175.00 each. Will have two camps one for 7 to 10 year olds and the other 11 to 14 year olds. Erma made a motion for the Friends to pay for 2 scholarships one to each camp. Carol Rogers 2nd the motion. The motion carried. Customer service training was attended by Santiago, Murcia and Haeffner. At the ATEEC meeting managers were directed to prepare a development plan. Mike was honored for his 15 years in county service. A new well house is planned plus a whole water system is to be installed. This pump house will be maintenance free, with metal roof. It will have storage place for skis and snowshoes. Door will include space for gator. Plan to have another outside drinking fountain. Our only drinking fountain is outdoors by the pine ring. Still working of the harvest of trees affected by the storm. We are being paid for the harvest of some logs. The power company has trimmed trees along the power line. A request has been submitted to cut down on the road dust. The dorm discharge is submitted and is clear. EDIWILD is scheduled for June 10th and 11th. The theme is Pollinators. Workday is Saturday April 18th. Friends are providing Lunch. Other events include 4/25 a Picasso event / May 2nd is a wildflower hike and Frog Chorus. Our new bee observation equipment is in. The bees will arrive this month. Friends were thanked for funding SOAR training. Greatly appreciated by staff. Have 10 birds of prey at the Taxidermist and they should be here soon. Last meeting we discussed pollinator plants. Took no action at the time because we wanted further discussions. Want pollinator plants providing nectar – gooseberry or blooming plants - spring, summer and fall. Erma moved that the Friends spend up to \$200.00 to purchase. 2nd by Carol Rogers. Motion carried. Signup sheet for hosts was passed.

Miscellaneous: Discussion ensued around possible uses of the Fred Lorenzin endowment funds. There may be possible building replacements. County is considering milling some of the downed trees to use for lumber for rebuilding. Carol announced that Audubon is doing bird surveys and particularly interested in find American Woodcocks. Friends checked out the bees and turtle tank installations.

Next meeting
Thursday, May 21st, 2015
6:00 P.M. – Wapsi River Center