

**Friends of the Wapsi Minutes**  
**July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**Menke Observatory – 6:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Mike Granger, Ingrid Bogdanowicz, Erma Wiszmann, Kyle Moeller (visitor)

Prior to the meeting attendees walked the prairie which is in bloom and beautiful. Attendees were checking Milkweed plants for monarch caterpillars, several were found. The meeting was called to order following the prairie walk. Carol Rogers was absent due to a summer cold.

**Minutes:** approved as mailed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Skipped due to Carol's absence.

**Staff Report:** Dave Murcia absent due to family needs. Becky and Emily participated in the Frog and Toad survey. Much of the Survey depends on listening for and identifying sounds. Kyle Moeller is halfway through his internship. The Iowa Association of naturalist's workshop is scheduled for August and Staff training is later in July. We do have pop and gift money which will be forwarded to our treasurer at another time. The pump house work is going forward. Concrete has been poured. Trail Markers were all installed by intern Moeller. These are required by the County. Should someone on a trail have a problem they can call 911(provided they have a cell phone) and identify which marker they are near. The Dormitory discharge was submitted to the DNR, and is meeting requirements. Our air conditioner developed a problem, in the Eco Center – that was repaired. We have Frogwarts on campus this week as well as next. Intern Kyle showed several game boards to be installed on our campus. Items like Checker board, Tick Tac Toe, Chime Wall, Leopold Bench and water structure were presented and discussed. Erma Moved the Friends spend up to \$700.00 for purchase of some of these items. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike, Motion Carried. Education program is very active. In June there were 7 Programs on site, and many groups offsite. We saw one group with Lydia House and Rick's House of Hope. The Wapsi Center staff worked closely with Nahant for their Junior Conservationist Camp. Upcoming events are Kayaking, Birds of Prey. The WREN is out. The Black-bellied whistling ducks left. The Beehive is doing well. The bees have swarmed, and the queen left. The worker bees left in the hive will make a new queen. The Ecology Date has been changed. They NEW DATE is 10/10/2015 .....This was changed because of rental conflicts. The Theme is "INSECTS/ POLLINATORS.

The Volunteer Host list was passed around.

**Our Next friends meeting is:**  
**Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**6:00 P.M. at the Wapsi River Center.**