

**Friends of the Wapsi Center Minutes**  
**November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**West Lake Park -6:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Dave Murcia, Carol Rogers, Ingrid Bogdanowitz and Erma Wiszmann.

**Minutes:** Carol Moved approved. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ingrid. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Bank Balance 4,567.08. Received \$500.00 check from Melissa Jacobsen for the Lower Wapsi River Cleanup organization. Carol Returned \$39.91 which was an overpayment. Carol paid the Insect Zoo Presentors and also the Bottling Co. is paid. Dave turned money form Pop Machine and Donations to Carol for deposit. Feeding the Kestrel and Owls came up for discussion. Friends suggested perhaps we need to be feed either 2 mice each or larger mice. We think they seem hungry.

**Staff Report:** Leroy our custodian has resigned effective November 30<sup>th</sup>. Leroy's replacement is Sean Santiago. He will move in in December. The AmeriCorps group was here for 6 weeks. We had a team of 10 persons. They removed invasive species from the prairie. They did mulching, installed erosion control structures on trails, planted milkweed, worked on the butterfly garden, canoe rack, painted whole dorm and aquatic lab. Expect to reapply for AmeriCorps for next year. Staff attended the IAN meeting. Dave Murcia took the Americorps group to the Dubuque nature museum to experience the Mississippi. Our Dorm discharge report is good – sent to DNR. Dave attended the Nahant Board meeting. Mike Emily and Dave registered in the Bee keeping program. Have ordered 2 new houses and they should arrive in February. If bees produce enough honey we may be able to harvest and sell. We need to learn how many and what kind of flowers needed in order for the bees to produce honey. We want more flowers in the prairie and forest etc. The pump house is complete – water is running. Need to get softener installed to avoid corrosive builder. In education in October, we had 447 attendees offsite we reached 344 persons. November 21<sup>st</sup> is a birds of prey program. It will be repeated on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Other programs are wreaths, cocoa Picasso. Bald eagle days are on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> – 2016. Need volunteers. **THERE IS NO FRIENDS MEETING IN DECEMBER 2015.** Inclement weather issues – call Dave at 563-271-2859 or the regular caretaker 563-328-3286 x 3. If volunteer has a concern about hosting please call. Host sign ups sheet was passed for volunteering at center and at Eagle Days.

**NEXT MEETING: 6:30 P.M.**  
**Thursday, January 21st, 2016**  
**West Lake Park (gate #3)**

**Miscellaneous Discussion:** The County is moving forward to replace the culverts and pave the road to the center. Likely will be done by 2017. The bequest funds are still being discussed. Some buildings may be replaced. Hope we'll be about to get more birds for the center displays. About the pound we are still looking for the proper sealer. With all of the recent rain the pond is filled. However can't maintain without a proper sealed base. Discussed using 6 to 12 inches of clay sealer or Bentonite.