

Friends of the Wapsi Center Meeting

Thursday, January 21st, 2016

Present: Carol Rogers, Mike Granger, Kyle Moeller, Ingrid Bogdanowitz, Bill Robbins and Erma Wiszmann. (Dave Murcia on Vacation)

Minutes: Approved as mailed.

Treasurer's Report: Checkbook Balance \$4515.08. Have two checks to Deposit – \$35.00 and a \$40.00 Donation.

Staff Report: Sean Santiago is the new caretaker and he will be official February 1st. Sean is Emily's Husband. A nice addition. Mike Emily and Dave have been attending a Bee Keeping Course, at the Deere Wiman House in Rock Island. Lessons involve learning about hives, and seasonal maintenance. Some staff attended partners of Scott County Watershed forum about floating island plants used to improve water quality. Dave attended Nahant Marsh Education Meeting. Grounds are being cleared of stumps. Mike is going to learn about a new telescope with remote controls at the Monsignor Menke observatory. Mike is teaching about astronomy and will talk to Dr. Mitchell and how to use the new equipment. Had a water leak in the Dorm, and the office building - the pipes at the office were not insulated properly but they are now if continues we will let the facet drip. Skis have been moved into the new pump house. Our male kestrel has died - we handled and cared for the bird for 20 years. We are getting bee flow hives, and there is more to be learned. Two Master naturalists helped with animal care and other matters. In November several groups were at the Wapsi Center, and several offsite. December was also busy. January 30th is Cocoa Picasso. February 6th is Winter Fun Day. Lucia will bring chili, cornbread and a desert. Backyard bird count is February 18th.

Thank you for all the helpers at Bald Eagle Days. The 2016 Pollinator Conference is scheduled for June 23 and 24 at the River Center in Davenport. If scheduled to host and weather is unsafe call Dave or the Caretaker. The Host sheet was passed around for volunteers. The usual reminders were reviewed. The Meeting adjourned.

The Next Friends Meeting will be at:

West Park Office (Gate #3)

February 18th, 2016

6:00 P.M.