

**Friends of the Wpasi Center Meeting
February 18th, 2016**

Present: DaveMucia, Carol Rogers, Ingrid Bogdanowitz, and Erma Wiszmann, Lucia

Mintutes; Carol Moved the approval and 2nd by Lucia motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Check Book Balance \$4895.10. Mr. Lee was a new member at \$25.00. Have pop money. Two renewals of memberships: Jackie Stepaniack, and a former student who had attended wapsi programs donated \$200.00.

Grounds: Sean our new caretaker, likes watching over the park. His cell phone is updated. Kyle and Sean completed fire training. They might attend training for development. On the grounds Sean is working on the past storm cleanup. Particularly he worked on the stumps near the burn pile.. If he finds trees to cut down he will ask for help. The nice article carried in the Quad City Times on the Wapsi Center. We will send our newsletter to the Quad City Times. Lucia suggested a docent training, for friends who want to become hosts. Having a training would help with hosts confidence at showing visitors our animals, artifact, etc. Hopefully the training might help recruit more friends members to host. Programs can be held on each of the birds, and animals. Target training for Saturdays to learn more about the center.

The septic tank at the facilities meets goals. The basement crawl space at Redtail has been sealed against animals. We are getting new Flow Hives for more bees. One flow hive come to Wapsi one to West Lake Park. If we gain enough honey what are the health requirements for sale. How do we know when we have enough honey for our Bees to make it through the winter? Can we sell Honey? The hive has a raw filter. We don't touch anything and it is straight raw honey. If we generate enough honey we might be able to make beeswax candles. Leroy's swarm is by the south wall of the new Pole Barn. We hope to do Programs. We have planted milkweed and other pollinator plants. We need early blooming plants – Dandelions, clover, violets etc.

Our Eastern Screech Owl had an accident and broke his beak. We think it was an impact accident. It is now tethered. We will keep a photo documentation of the injury. We have to cut up his food now as he can't tear it up. We need to cut his food in ½ inch pieces with orange scissors. We will supply a cutting board and a sharp knife as well.

Programming: In January we had 8 groups on site with 289 participants – also 8 groups offsite with 1925 participants. Upcoming events – Cocoa Picasso and Maple syruping. Winter fun day went well. Believe we should set guidelines for anytime food is to be served. Friends agreed Pot Luck style of serving will pass health requirements. We need to complete the Dotty Wala plaque. The 2016 QC Pollinator Conference is June 23rd and 24th at the River Center. Friends will have a booth space.

A new education camera was discussed. This would be an action (GO PRO) camera, waterproof (under131) foot of water. With accessories we would buy a battery charger. The cost would be \$399.00 on sale now. \$50.00 for memory card. \$20.00 for Head Strap and \$20.00 for an extra battery. Would use this to upload to Facebook. The total is \$562.75 at Best Buy, plus tax. Erma moved to purchase and 2nd by Lucia. Vote unanimous.

**The Next Meeting is:
Thursday, March 17th, 2016 (St Patrick's Day)
Wapsi Center at 6:00 P.M.**

{Those who attend can stop at the Depot, in Donahue to Celebrate}.

Lucia Announce that April 24th which is Earth Day, a concert will be held at the Unitarian Church at 6:00 P.M. – the Friends are invited.