

Friends of the Wapsi Center Annual Meeting Thursday, June 18th, 2016

Present: Carol Rogers, Emily Santiago, Pat Knopick, Mike Granger, Jane Duax, Nate Zigler and Rich and Rhonda Mure (sp?)

Emily led off with what was basically a tutorial explaining the operation at the Wapsi River Center, for the benefit of attendees who would be interested in becoming Friends of the Wapsi Center. Some of the friend's members were absent due to other commitments. Carol moved the friends proceed with the meeting. The Motion was seconded and voters voted yes.

Minutes: Approved as mailed.

Treasurer's Report: \$4060.17 in Checking account. Have received a \$5.58 Rebate. Also have 2 CD's.

Staff report: Christian our intern is working on an Aquaponics Garden. On the Grounds we are planting trees where others were blown down. We are replacing them with Oaks and Hickories. The Eagle scouts are working on raised garden beds. The scouts want to build an outdoor enclosure for our birds. A new office building is being planned. Our old office building is deteriorating. We have sent our dorm water quality testing to the DNR. Under Education we are working with Nahant marsh. No scholarships from the friends were awarded the first week. The week was 7 – 10 year olds. On July 11th the camp will be 11 to 14 year olds. (The Friends paid for scholarships to be awarded to 2 campers). Money has been earmarked for the Wapsi River Center. New buildings must be environmentally correct. Reported on training groups, on and off site. The 2016 pollinator conference is June 23rd and 24th. We will be helping with checking attendees and directing. EDIWILD was cancelled due to not enough registrations. The handicapped space has been built. We still need to complete the WALA memorial. Friends are invited to the Friends of the Pioneer Village meeting on July 17th for a noon potluck. It will be appreciated if any of our friends groups could attend to help answer "Friends Questions".

Because this was our annual meeting there usually is an election of officers. Erma moved that we should move the election to July due to low members present. Mike 2nd the motion. Motion carried. A question about possible bad weather this weekend – if the host can't make it they are to call Dave Murcia or Sean Santiago. The Meeting Adjourned.

Miscellaneous Conversation: Mike heard a blue jay which was calling like a Red Tailed Haw. A ring necked Dove was seen near Maysville. One Doe was seen with 2 fawns. Another Doe had only one fawn – so we know they are multiplying. Erma and Pat saw a raptor on a post which they couldn't identify. Armadillos are moving north. Downy woodpeckers are around. Seem to be boom in the hackberry butterfly population. They are sometimes found along roadsides where salt is in the gravel. If any first hosts are scheduled Emily will train.

(Remember we are invited to the Friends of the Pioneer Village Meeting – 12 Noon on Saturday, July 17th, 2016 for a Pot Luck)

**Next Friends Meeting:
Thursday, July 21st at 6:00 P.M. at the Wapsi River Center – Dixon Iowa**