

Friends of the Wapsi Center Meeting
Minutes 1/19/17

Present: Carol Rogers, Bill Robbins, Tom Schwake, Julie Ross, Jim Ross, Ingrid Bogdanowicz, Lucia Dryanski, Emily Santiago

Approval of Minutes: Bill moved to approve November minutes as sent, Julie 2nd, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: \$4,184.21 in checking, \$5000+ in certificates, total \$9,395.12

Staff Report:

- Staff visited Indian Creek Nature Center (Lynn Co., Cedar Rapids) in early Dec.. Run by a private organization; building is the most green building in IA. Good ideas in case we build a new Nature Center in the future.
- IAN awards: Becky got award for Zombie Archery Program; Wapsi included in award for QC Pollinator Conference.
- Emily, Becky & Dave submitted their IAN Prof Develop. recertification (20 hours or more continuing ed.)
- Sean (caretaker) begins his season in Feb. (phone # 563-210-4362)
- Brandy, the intern just completed her time @Wapsi—focused on animal care, Bald Eagle Day display/set up.
- Road Project: road to center will be closed for 2 weeks in June, as it will be paved. Culverts being replaced first.
- Grounds: New office nearing completion; furniture arriving. Dorm MOR submitted to IADNR
- Education: Env Ed program/facility assessment continues; contracted out to consulting company. Report will include if staffing needs met, assess how Environmental Ed program aligns with Next Gen Science Standards (NGSS).
- Ray Wolf will do Climate change talk in the Spring @ Wapsi, open to the public (poss on Earth Day 4/22)
- Nov: 7 groups (#100) @ Wapsi, 4 groups (#148) off-site. Dec: 3 groups (#48) @ Wapsi, 6 groups (#238) off site

Old Business:

- Friends' logo shirts/vests—Julie is working on this, report next month?
- Discussion of Fundraising Committee: Becky has done trivia nights. Focus on Nature?? Discussed goal for trivia: \$\$, education, or both? Possibly do less than 10 rounds, do in the afternoon, charge \$5 if shorter than 10 rounds. Plan: get committee together after Winter Fun Day
- Vacuum purchased; Julie will get receipt to Bill
- Thanks for Friends' support volunteering at Bald Eagle Days. Passed out quite a few Friends' flyers.
- More discussion of possible WVIK sponsorship/PR. Wapsi already posts on their web page. Lucia will get info

New Business:

- Friends Sponsor Cocoa Picasso in future? Emily will bring info on costs to next meeting.
- Tom's Projects with Emily: Insect hotels; plan to make them in animal shapes and set them up along the sidewalk. Would like Friends' Group to sponsor and put together an insect hotel between the LP tank and own enclosure; there's a good spot between 2 trees. Jim got sidetracked thinking up names for it: ("Honey Bee-stro," "Bug-ingham Palace...") Bill moved to make and sponsor bug hotel, Julie 2nd, motion passed.
- Request to change name of Friends' Facebook page to "Friends of the Wapsi Center." Lucia will do so, and add Emily as an administrator of the page.
- Got a moose mount (head and race) from RV place on 110th in Davenport. Will replace rack we have hanging in the center now.
- WINTER FUN DAY—Julie and Jim are hosting that day. Plan X-country ski, snow shoe nature hike, winter bird feeding and snowman making if there's snow; if no snow, then hike, bird feeding, and Julie will do snowflake cutting program. Chili cookoff—Emily, Lucia & Bill (2), Julie & Jim, Ingrid. Volunteers: L&B, Ingrid, possibly Carol?
- Mike installed light in small bird enclosure—they're on a timer.
- Volunteer Roundup scheduled 10am to noon 3/4.
- Lucia & Bill offered their home for the June Annual Meeting; cook out, potluck and prairie hike

Julie moved to adjourn, Bill 2nd, motion passed.

Next Meeting 2/16/17 at Eldridge Library. In March, meetings will return to the Wapsi Center.