

**Friends of the Wapsi Center Minutes**  
Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Wapsi River Environmental Education Center

Attendees: Carol Rogers, Bill Robbins, Emily Santiago, Joy Sheeley, Tom Schwake, Bob Bryant, Jim Ross, Ingrid Bogdanowicz, and Erma Wiszmann

April Minutes: Erma moved approval, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Robbins, motion arrived.

Treasurer's Report: Bank Balance \$9,282.65 which includes 2 CD's. Unanimously approved.

Emily reported staff have been recertified in First Aid and CPR. Sean is now a nationally licensed EMT. Dave Murcia has submitted the Friends' annual 990-N tax return for non-profits. Dave is in NY at his daughter's graduation.

Money turned over to Treasurer: \$53.00 from Hillcrest Elementary School. \$50.00 in pop money. 3 new memberships. Caroline Kimple made a donation to the Friends' group- suggest money go to \$512 for more resin skulls. Hold out \$400 for next Friends' meeting.

Grounds: Markers on the road- will be done by June of next year. Culverts replaced and road widening. Office air conditioning completed. Planting has been started. Milkweed plants arrived from the Monarch Watch grant. Lucas Walsh is ready to install Leopold benches which is an Eagle Scout project. The rail is up at the office. The old office is to be removed June 5<sup>th</sup>. That area will be turned into a natural play scape. Boilers were inspected at the Dormitory, new office and cabin. The dorm report has been submitted to the DNR.

In April on site programs given to 6 groups for a total of 230 attendees- included Paul Norton elementary, Durant elementary, Thomas Jefferson elementary, and the climate change program by Ray Wolf of NOAA. 9 groups off site- included Davenport Jr High, Goodwill, Central and West High Schools.

We have 2 cases of bees. We are waiting for the observation hive.

Volunteer opportunity- making bat houses, next week's program will be on Hunting and Gathering.

Insect hotels project moving along. The Bio Blitz at Scott County Park golf course was rescheduled because of rain.

New Business: New set of skulls price out at \$498.00 and with shipping will total \$547.80. Carol moved \$35.80 to pay remainder of shipping, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joy- Carried. Thank you for volunteer work day. The host binder has addition on update for Scott County rehabilitation for wildlife- have Scott and Clinton counties. June 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM-Save the Date- a raptor handling orientation will be held at Wapsi.

The next meeting | the annual meeting- will be held at West Lake Park. We will order pizza- please attend. Will hold a raffle and will recognize Friend of the Year. Our pond still does not hold water.

Saturday Mike will hold a bat house workshop.

Meeting ended.

Miscellaneous discussion- we saw the first hummingbird of the year. In the past we had a large fox population- suspect reduced population was caused by ringworm and distemper. The bell will be reinstalled.

Minutes recorded by Erma Wiszmann- Acting Secretary.