

Friends of the Wapsi Center, Inc.
Annual Meeting 6/15/17 @ West Lake Park

Present: Julie Ross, Jim Ross, Jerry Wala, Penny Dorgan, Cathie Nichols, Norm Nichols, Joy Sheeley, Ingrid Bogdanowicz, Tom Schwake, Carol Rogers, Bill Robbins, Bob Bryant, Lucia Dryanski, Emily Santiago, Becky Horton, Dave Murcia

- 1) **Volunteer recognition and awards:** Jim Ross (Hosted Center 9 times in past year), Carol Rogers (Attended 9 Friends meetings), Tom Schwake (most hours volunteered—152!), Joy Sheeley (Volunteer of the Year—new plaque to be displayed at the Center), Carol Rogers & Erma W (long-standing volunteerism)
- 2) **Minutes Approved as mailed:** Jim Ross moved, someone else 2nd, motion passed
- 3) **Treasurer's Report:** Balance 9646.16 (including CD's)
- 4) **Staff Report:**
 - a) Staff: Emily attended QC Earth Coalition meeting. These are bi-monthly meetings that focus in strategic planning, and include River Action, RI Waste Commission, and other groups. A "Passport Program" is planned. // The Wapsi Center will be closed on Tuesday July 4 // Friends of Wapsi earned \$99 through the Schnucks E Script Program. Note that Schnucks also has a recycling program, including ink cartridges
 - b) Grounds: Road paving will take place in Spring 2018. // Pollinator planting continues around the new office, including choke cherries, prairie dropseed & other plants. // 6 Leopold benches are now located at Redtail and 7 along the main trail thanks to Eagle Scout project.
 - c) Facilities: Old office is gone, area has been seeded; new office organization continues. //Water spigot operable.//Dorm MOR submitted to IADNR (this is a monthly operating report & has to do with water testing—thanks to whoever was the one to ask for clarification!!)
 - d) Education: Evn. Ed program/facility assessment by E- Resources has been completed and results will be released in the next month or so.// May 2017 was the busiest May in 3 years, with on-site programming to 1142 (24 groups) & off-site for 348 (8 groups)//New WREN is coming out at the end of June.
- 5) **Old Business:** A charitable donation in amt of \$512 was received for next order of resin skulls, Friends group will pay shipping (\$38)
- 6) **New Business:**
 - a) Thanks to all who have hosted the center.
 - b) All volunteers are asked to resubmit release of info sheets for background checks if they haven't already done so.
 - c) Discussion of having both am and pm Saturday volunteer host shifts, in order to keep the center open all day on Saturdays. Voted yes, and these shifts will start in July
 - d) Raptor Training with Emily is scheduled for Saturday July 29 at 9:00 am. This is for friends who want to be able to handle the raptors for visitors and at events. Those who committed to attend: Jim, Ingrid, Lucia, Tom, Norm, Julie, Bill, maybe Jerry
 - e) Election of officers : President: Jim Ross (nominated by Carol, 2nd by Julie, passed) Vice President: Ingrid Bogdanowicz (nominated by Julie, 2nd by Joy, passed) Treasurer: team of Bill Robbins and Tom Schwake (nominated by Bill/Tom, 2nd by Julie, passed) Secretary: Joy Sheeley (nominated by Lucia, 2nd by Julie, passed)
 - f) Friends Contact List - Emily will make copies and bring them to next meeting for all members.
- 7) **Next Meeting: Thursday July 20th, 6:30 pm at the Wapsi Center**