

APPROVED MINUTES FOR MARCH 22, 2016 FRIENDS OF THE REFUGE BOD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carovano, French, Goodding, Kilgore, Hart, Hartz, Marsh, Mays, S.Miller, Nelson, Paquet, Squiers

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Fawver, M.Miller, Stoeller, Whitewolf

OTHERS ATTENDING: Pam Farris, Erin Holmes, Curt Mycut, Virginia Parks

INTRO DATE	ITEM	ACTION NEEDED/TAKEN	BD ACTION	NEXT REPORT DATE	STATUS	PERSON IN CHARGE
03/22/16	CONSENT AGENDA	Consent Agenda included following items:	Marsh/ Hart		Approved	
	MINUTES	sent via e-mail		AprBOD		S.Miller
	FINANCIAL REPORT	sent via e-mail		AprBOD		Stoeller
	VISITOR SERVICES REPORT	sent via e-mail		AprBOD		S.Miller
	TRBF REPORT	sent via e-mail		AprBOD		Anderson
	PHOTO SOCIETY REPORT	sent via e-mail		AprBOD		Nelson
	RESTORATION REPORT	sent via e-mail		AprBOD		French
	CAMP REPORT	sent via e-mail		AprBOD		Hartz
03/22/16	PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS	Prior to the start of the meeting, the Friends' members who were recipients of the Presidential Volunteer Service Awards for 2015 were invited to attend to receive their pins and certificates				
03/22/16	BRANDING UPDATE	Mays presented an update on the Branding project and responded to questions and suggested additions		AprBOD		Mays

03/22/16	JENNA MENDENHALL'S DEPARTURE	Hartz announced that Jenna Mendenhall has accepted a position with OSU Extension and has resigned her position as Friends' Conservation Education Lead Coordinator; he invited members to attend a farewell gathering for Jenna scheduled the day after the Board meeting; Hartz also announced that Robin Harrower has agreed to fill in on a part-time, temporary basis until the vacant position can be permanently filled		AprBOD		Hartz
03/22/16	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SPECIALIST POSITION	Hartz explained the recruitment and hiring process in place for the vacant position, newly-named Environmental Education Specialist; about 30 applications have been received thus far; he hopes the person selected will be in place by May 1		AprBOD		Hartz
03/22/16	GO FUND ME FOR TIM BLOUNT	Nelson announced that Tim Blount, Executive Director of Friends of Malheur, had created a Go Fund Me account to replace binoculars and a camera taken during the refuge occupation; Eagle Optics has donated replacement binoculars, so funds donated beyond those needed for a replacement camera will be used for binoculars to be loaned to visitors to the refuge; Nelson asked whether FOR was interested in donating funds; consensus seemed to be that members should donate individually if they wished to do so				

03/22/16	SUMMER INTERN	Mays announced that Makayla Hays has been hired as an intern for 8 weeks to work on a living history project to interview founding members of the Friends; a reception will be scheduled later on to explain the project to people who will be interviewed		AprBOD		Mays
03/22/16	FRIENDS AGREEMENT	Mays announced that the Friends Partnership Agreement would be signed on March 24 at USFWS Regional Office; he will send copies of the signed agreement to members		AprBOD		
03/22/16	GOVERNANCE ANNUAL WORKPLAN	Marsh and members of the Governance Committee discussed their belief that it is time to update FOR's Strategic Plan; in their efforts to update the Governance annual work plan, they realized that the SP is out of date, particularly in terms of the Urban Program and other current initiatives; they requested a commitment from FWS to participate in the SP process, and Erin Holmes indicated that she would personally participate; they are proposing a process that would have a finished plan to present to the membership at the 2017 Annual Meeting; the committee will return with a formal plan and timeline to the April Board meeting		AprBOD		Marsh
03/22/15	JUNIOR DUCK STAMPS	Virginia Parks announced that judging for the Junior Duck Stamp contest would take place the following day; pictures will be displayed in the Riparian Room; a reception for all participants will be held April 9 from 1-4 pm				
03/22/16	VISITOR SERVICES MANAGER	There is no new information; funds for the position were not included in the Refuge's current budget		AprBOD		Mays

03/22/16	20TH ANNUAL BIRD FESTIVAL/ SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	Mays announced that sponsorships have been confirmed from Clean Water Services, Marsh Consulting, Dr. Tyberg, Cabelas; a few of the \$100 individual patron sponsorships are still available		AprBOD		Anderson
03/22/16	CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SOCIAL MIXER	Per Mays, the mixer will be scheduled for late April		AprBOD		Mays
03/22/16	ANNOUNCEMENTS:					
	REFUGE UPDATE	Erin Holmes announced that this year's budget has been received and includes some project-specific funds for restoration and other needs; the budget funds the Friends Habitat Restoration Specialist (Sarah Williams) position through September, 2017; extra expenses for pump repairs and additional pump rentals for Wapato Lake will total around \$55,000, so some budget items will be on hold until the next fiscal year; funds are included to pay for the buses for the TRBF. Curt Mycut provided an update on restoration and water management activities, as well as the completion of a 15-year Inventory and Monitoring Plan for the Refuge; the eagles still are not incubating an egg, but since there is still a possibility that an egg could arrive, the trail detour will remain in place to assure that visitors do not get too close to the new nest				
	REPORT VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARDS	Anderson was not able to attend, so volunteer hours for March will be collected at the April meeting				
	E-NEWSLETTER ARTICLES AND DEADLINE	Deadline for the next newsletter is April 24; articles should be sent to Stan and Dawn Carovano				