

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anderson, Carovano, French, Hartz, Kilgore, Marsh, Mays, S.Miller, Nelson, Paquet

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fawver, Hart, M.Miller, Squiers, Stoeller

OTHERS ATTENDING: Rachel Dunham, Eva Kristofik, John Schweitzer

INTRO	ITEM	ACTION NEEDED/TAKEN	BD ACTION	NEXT	STATUS	PERSON IN
11/22/16	CONSENT AGENDA	Consent Agenda included following items:	Mays/ Paquet		Approved	
	MINUTES	sent via e-mail		JanBOD		S.Miller
	FINANCIAL REPORT	sent via e-mail		JanBOD		Stoeller
	VISITOR SERVICES REPORT	sent via e-mail		JanBOD		S.Miller
	MEMBERSHIP	sent via e-mail		JanBOD		Anderson
	PHOTO SOCIETY REPORT	sent via e-mail		JanBOD		Nelson
	RESTORATION REPORT	sent via e-mail		JanBOD		French
	CAMP REPORT	sent via e-mail		JanBOD		Hartz
11/22/16	REPORT FROM RACHEL DUNHAM ON RECENT CONFERENCES	Rachel Dunham presented information from three conferences she recently attended: USFWS Communication, Outreach and Visitor Services Workshop at NCTC, NAI Process of Interpretive Planning, and Grand Ronde Cultural and History Summit; she summarized key information from all three, and responded to questions and comments				
11/22/16	NO BIRD FESTIVAL IN 2017	Hartz reported that it appears the annual Bird Festival will likely be replaced this year with smaller, less resource-intensive events; planning dates and other specifics for those will begin soon		JanBOD		Anderson

11/22/16	FRIENDS BRANDING UPDATE	Hartz discussed plans for the Branding Committee to meet again to review the style guide and discuss how the Friends can better utilize the images created during the branding process; part of that work will include the Friends having a larger presence in the Wildlife Center by providing more information about the Friends' organization and its contributions to the Refuge; there are also plans to completely re-design the Friends web page, and Kilgore will be working on that over the next few months		JanBOD		Hartz
11/22/16	PLAY AREA ON REFUGE	Hartz reported on preliminary planning for a children's play area as envisioned in the CCP; this would be a natural area for children to explore with their parents rather than a playground with play structures; one possible option would be to partner with a private company which might help provide funding		JanBOD		Hartz
11/22/16	EE COMMITTEE UPDATE	Hartz gave kudos to the Environmental Education Committee for its work to move toward naturalist-led field trips; he particularly commented on the tree curriculum design led by Jim Burrows; additional curricula are being developed by other naturalists				
11/22/16	BOARD BINDERS	Anderson distributed Board orientation notebooks with useful information for members; additional material will be coming, including Board member and committee chair expectations; suggestions were given re. Board expectations, and Anderson will compile those and send out for review		JanBOD		Anderson
11/22/16	TOOL TRAILER	Staff at FWS Regional Office were busy working on signage for the newly-expanded Pacific Marine Monument; wrapping for the tool trailer is now a priority for them and should be completed soon		JanBOD		Hartz
11/22/16	GOVERNANCE UPDATE	Hartz and Marsh led a discussion about the need for an updated strategic plan and annual work plan; there was consensus that the work plan should build on and not duplicate the FWS work plan, which is currently being finalized for this year; the Governance Committee will meet in early January and begin framing the agenda and searching for a date for a Board/FWS staff retreat, probably on a Saturday in early 2017		JanBOD		Marsh

11/22/16	ANNOUNCEMENTS:					
	REFUGE UPDATE	John Schweitzer provided information about designs for a new bridge at Wapato Lake which should be completed sometime in 2018; Eva Kristofik discussed the hiring processes for both the BioTech position (an offer was made but was declined, so more candidates are being considered) and the Administrative Officer position (exploring filling with someone from a direct-hire category, which can be done more quickly than a competitive hiring)				
	REPORT VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARDS	Anderson circulated a form to capture volunteer hours for November				
	E-NEWSLETTER ARTICLES AND DEADLINE	Articles and photos are due to Anderson by the date of the Board meeting (even in months when the Board does not meet); Kilgore will compile the newsletter for distribution early the following month				
	BOARD RESIGNATION	Hartz announced that Darren Goodding has resigned from the Board; he has accepted a position with the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Washington				
	DECEMBER MEETING	The December Board meeting is cancelled due to the date being so close to Christmas; the next meeting will be January 24, 2017				