

**NFLA Business Meeting**  
*Sondreson Hall / August 4, 2007*

*Minutes submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Pat Cole:*

Ed Heger took a roll call of board members and all were present.

Ed read the minutes from the July meeting and the minutes were approved as read.

Pat Cole presented the financial report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**North Fork Patrol:** Lee Downes advised that all is well and there is nothing new to report.

**Fire:** Lynn provided an update on local fires and advised that no open fire rings are allowed. Hoot Owl is now in effect and chain saws cannot be run after 1 PM.

**Trails:** John Frederick advised that Thoma will be done tomorrow and they will work on Hornet lookout on Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Website:** Richard Wackrow advised that that is nothing new to report.

**Land Use Planning:** Jon Cole advised that approximately 40 people attended the Neighborhood Plan Workshop held earlier that day. Drew Hagemeyer of the County Planning & Zoning Department compiled the 1987 neighborhood plan plus recent the recent draft plan into one document. Attendees formed groups to discuss the document and provide comments. Jon reminded everyone that a second workshop will be held on Tuesday, August 28, at 7PM. Drew will bring more copies of the draft document to the next meeting.

**Fire Mitigation:** Molly Shepherd advised that there is still plenty of grant money left for homeowners for fire mitigation purposes. They also have a second grant, which provides money until 2009. The forest service contractor is logging near the border. They should be logging on Trail Creek by September/October, depending on the fire restrictions in effect.

Molly also advised that an independent wood committee has been formed, with Robin Cox and Oliver Meister serving as co-chairmen. Robin is still in the process of gathering information. Weed management programs and weed identification brochures are available at the hall.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Richard advised he needs contact information for board members for the website. Robin Cox and Oliver Meister's contact information could also be provided for the weed committee.

**NEW AND CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

Ed advised that Cline Mining did not do field work yet and pushed it out a year. British Petroleum is on track with their project and has \$100 million devoted to exploratory work.

The Interlocal Meeting was hosted by the North Fork Compact and Don Sullivan.

Gerry Stearns advised that one topic addressed at the Interlocal was how successful the letter-writing campaign was in stopping the Cline Mine, and we now need to stop British Petroleum before their exploratory work. She suggested landowners write letters and refer to the website for information (there is a Basin Commission website link).

Don Sullivan advised he can provide sample letters and addresses. He will provide Richard Wackrow with information on who to write letters of concern to for the website.

Ed Heger advised that the Flathead Coalition is trying to revive its membership again to fight mining threats.

Bob Grimaldi advised that he complained to the county about noise control and was told that the county cannot pass an ordinance regarding noise, because the state has no noise ordinance. Kalispell, Columbia Falls and Whitefish have ordinances, but they are not enforceable outside the city limits. Ed suggested it could be incorporated into the neighborhood plan. It was agreed that a letter be written to Drew Hagemeyer from the land use committee to thank him for the workshop, address the noise issue, and reaffirm that no significant changes to the neighborhood plan or zoning are desired.

Jon Elliott asked that Bob Grimaldi provide an update on the road dust hazard study. Bob advised that the University of Montana is conducting a study on dust on the North Fork Road, however they won't comment until it is completed. Their group is working in partnership with the RC&D and have approved an application to work on a project to bring the issue to the attention of environmental groups and other official agencies.

**BYLAWS AMENDMENT:**

Ed Heger read the proposed amendment to the bylaws submitted by Gerry Stearns at the July meeting to change the names of the Polebridge and Trail Creek Districts to the North and South Districts, per common usage. The amendment was approved unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The North Fork Compact annual meeting will be held on Monday, August 13, at 8PM at the hall.

The community float will be held tomorrow from Wurtz Airstrip to Sondreson Meadow at 11AM.

**ELECTIONS:**

**NFLA Business Meeting  
Sondreson Hall / August 4, 2007**

Jon Elliott presided over the elections. Molly Shepherd was elected as president, Oliver Meister was elected as vice president, Lynn Ogle was elected as north director and Frank Vitale was elected as south director. Molly appointed Pat Cole to continue as secretary/treasurer.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 PM.