

NFLA Business Meeting
Sondreson Hall / June 7, 2008

Minutes submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Pat Cole:

Molly Shepherd took a roll call of the board members. Everyone was present.

Molly reviewed the minutes from the October meeting. The minutes were approved.

Pat Cole gave the financial report (attached to these minutes) for the fiscal year-to-date and advised that we received a \$1,000 donation from the Edwards family for the hall porch project, and \$195 in donations in memory of Zelma Block.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Land Use Planning: Jon Cole advised that the 30-day protest period for the neighborhood plan was over, and that it was scheduled to be approved by the commissioners at 9:45AM on June 12.

North Fork Patrol & Law Enforcement: Lee Downes advised that patrollers have decals for their cars identifying them. Naomi provided a financial report for the North Fork Patrol and advised that they have \$9,348.82 in the credit union.

Lynn Ogle advised that the sheriff's office hired a part-time deputy who is issuing speeding tickets on the unpaved county roads, including the North Fork Road. The speed limit on Forest Service side roads is 25 mph.

Fire: Lynn advised that there is no structure protection during the winter months. The Trail Creek/Polebridge fire department is only prepared to respond to calls during the summer months. No interior attacks will be made on any structure unless someone is inside. The following people have radios: John Frederick, Oliver Meister, Mark & Margaret Heaphy, Larry Wilson, Elmer Bensen, Duke & Naomi Hoiland, Lynn Ogle and Lee Downes. Lynn advised that he is chairman of the county's fire services board and is fire chief for the North Fork. They operate under the Office of Emergency Services.

Lynn advised that he talked to Guy Foy of the County Road Department who advised he will try to get the roadside wood piles burned. Lynn also encouraged everyone to attend the fire workshop with Ed Burlingame on July 5th. Molly advised that this workshop could serve to fulfill our requirement of a "FireWise Day" in maintaining our FireWise Community status.

Molly also reminded everyone that Glacier View fire management personnel will be holding a Fire Use Workshop on June 12th.

Weeds: Oliver Meister advised that Steve Robinson of the county provided a weed workshop prior to this meeting. Handouts are available on the back table.

Trails: Frank Vitale advised that the trails are still under snow.

Fire Mitigation: Molly advised that the first grant expires this year, and a second grant is available until 2010 with \$100,000 in funds still available. Bill Swope is the contact

person. The North Fork once again received “FireWise Community” designation, and we must meet certain criteria to maintain that status. Molly advised that the Trail Project was complete, with slash piles to be burned in the fall. The Forest Service provided notice of the decision on the Red/Whale Project, which provides for 2,800 acres of mechanical fuels reduction, as well as prescribed burns on 1,100 acres and seedling planting on 330 acres. The DNRC completed its environment assessment for the North Fork timber sale project for the Mud Lake and Moose sections, for logging mostly of lodgepole.

Molly suggested presenting plaques and letters of thanks to Mike Justus and Bill Swope of the DNRC for their contributions to the community since the Wedge Canyon fire. It was suggested that Mason Richwine also be included as a recipient. A motion was made to present plaques and letters of thanks to Mike Justus, Bill Swope and Mason Richwine. The motion was seconded and approved. It was determined that the best time to present the awards would be at the August meeting.

Website: Richard Wackrow advised that the website was a good link for out-of-state landowners to keep informed on current activities.

ReVision Committee: Molly advised that she formed a committee after the October meeting to follow-up on creating a mission statement and a process for dealing with motions requesting contributions or raising divisive issues. The committee members include Steve Berg, Suzanne Daniell, Margaret Heaphy, Ed Heger, Richard Hildner and Molly. They met three times over the winter and came up with a proposed mission statement and bylaw procedures. The committee obtained input from the NFLA board which resulted in some changes to their original proposed bylaw procedures. Molly provided handouts of the Report and Recommendations of the committee (attached hereto) and advised they will be discussed further at the July meeting, before being voted on at the August meeting. The proposed bylaws provide for the board to determine whether a motion raises a divisive issue and if so, to defer the final vote on the motion until the next regular meeting in order to provide notice to members. The proposed bylaw for contributions provides for no monetary contributions to other organizations. It was suggested at the meeting that dues to other organizations also be ceased, and that contributions could be made on a individual basis, rather than by the NFLA as a group.

OLD BUSINESS:

Hall Clean-Up: Molly advised that the hall clean-up day was held earlier this year, but had a good turnout with 20 people showing up.

Porch Project: Frank Vitale reported on a plan to replace the porch and install a roof over it. He advised that Lee Secrest volunteered to donate his milled lumber for the project. Frank will donate his time to oversee the construction and is looking for volunteers to help out. Frank estimates it will take one-two days to complete the deck. He is available to work on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. Richard will post a work schedule on the website. Frank advised that had hoped to add a handicapped-accessible ramp, however, it was cost prohibitive. Gerry Stearns obtained an estimate from Western Building who

agreed to provide the materials at cost. In addition, a donation of \$1,000 was received from the Edwards Family for the porch project. Frank estimates the total cost of the project (without a ramp) to be \$2,531. A motion was made by Lynn Ogle to proceed with the project outlined by Frank and to allow for a total expense of up to \$3,000. Duke Hoiland seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Sign-up forms were handed out for work dates and tools needed. Frank set Saturday, July 12, as the first day of work on the project to tear down the existing deck.

Hall Rental Policy: Pat advised that the board voted to raise the hall rental fee from \$50 for members to \$100, and from \$75 for non-members to \$150, plus a damage deposit in the same amounts. The board also voted not to rent hall furniture in the future. Pat prepared a hall rental policy detailing renting procedures.

Mining: Ed Heger reported that congressional delegates have been supportive of the mining issues. Dave Hadden of the Flathead Coalition talked to BP official in London and received favorable responses.

NEW BUSINESS:

Molly advised that the NFLA will be hosting this summer's Interlocal Meeting on Wednesday, July 9. She included with the invitations a request to agencies to provide an overview of the options for dust abatement from their different perspectives. Molly asked that if anyone had any other issues to be raised at the Interlocal, that they pass them on to her or Pat. Bonnie Ogle asked that we inquire about the number of times dust abatement would have to be redone on each option, and what kind of chemicals would be involved in each option.

Bob Grimaldi inquired about the manual he sent on dust abatement procedures. Molly advised that several members of the board had reviewed the manual and that it was available for everyone to look at the back table.

Ray Brown reminded everyone that the results of the dust hazard study will be presented on Monday, June 9, at 1PM in the commissioner's office.

Molly reminded everyone about the dance on June 28 hosted by Debo Powers.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM.