

NFLA Business Meeting
Sondreson Hall / July 5, 2008

Minutes submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Pat Cole:

Molly Shepherd took a roll call of the board members was taken with all members present except for Oliver Meister.

The minutes of the June meeting were read by Molly and approved.

The financial report was presented by Pat Cole.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Land Use Planning: Jon Cole advised that the commissioners passed a resolution to adopt the revisions to the North Fork Neighborhood Plan on July 12, 2008.

North Fork Patrol: Patrol members advised that Mark and Margaret Heaphy have joined the group of patrollers. They also advised that a deputy sheriff is writing tickets for speeding on the North Fork Road. Larry Wilson advised that there is no camping on the Glacier side of the river. New forest service regulations require those camping along the river to have a self-contained toilet where no public facilities are available. Fire pans/blankets are recommended by the forest service.

Fire/Law Enforcement: Lynn Ogle advised that any fires be reported to John Frederick or Oliver on the south and Lynn, Larry or Duke on the north. Lynn advised that brochures are available from the Wildfire workshop held earlier in the evening by Ed Burlingame.

Trails: Frank Vitale advised that work on Hornet Lookout will begin 8/16 and Thoma Trail will be done on 9/15.

Fire Mitigation: Molly advised that the plaques to Bill Swope, Mike Justus and Mason Richwine would probably be presented in the fall. Molly referenced the Fire Use Workshop held on June 12 and advised of the possibility that the forest service will be employing a fire-use technique on the North Fork in which they monitor naturally-caused fires to determine whether they pose a risk to values viewed as important. In the event the risk is high, they will suppress the fire, but if they determine if the risk is low, typically in the spring or fall, they may follow a policy of allowing the fire to burn.

ReVision Committee: Molly advised that based on the comments received, minor changes were made to the bylaw proposals passed out at the last meeting. They will be distributed later in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Porch Project: Frank advised that Saturday, July 12, is the first scheduled workday to tear down the existing deck. Gerry Stearns advised that lunch will be provided and she is

seeking volunteers to grill on workdays. Western Building will be delivering supplies Friday, July 11. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own tools. Work will start between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.

Interlocal: Molly advised that the Interlocal meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 9, at 6:30 p.m. starting with a potluck dinner at 5:00 p.m. hosted by the Glacier Institute. Included in the invitation to the agencies was a request to discuss dust abatement options from the agencies' perspective. Molly asked for any other special topics that members would like addressed at the meeting. Larry requested information on the progress of the off-road vehicle policy and maps. Other requests for topics to be addressed included the road closure plan for the Red/Whale Project, clearing trails to the river off Wurtz airstrip, and the delisting of wolves.

BC Mining: Ed Heger advised there is nothing new to report. Karen Miske of the Flathead Basin Commission should be at the Interlocal to provide an update.

NEW BUSINESS:

Molly provided handouts of the three bylaw proposals presented at the June meeting. Steve Berg presented the proposed bylaw covering the Process for Divisive Issues and the proposal was discussed by the members.

Lee Downes presented a bylaw proposal stating that any person holding an office in an organization with influence on North Fork concerns, may not hold an office in the NFLA due to a conflict of interest. After member discussion, another bylaw proposal was submitted by Bob Grimaldi which listed three specific North Fork organizations (Road Coalition, Preservation Association and Compact), whose officers would be prohibited from holding an office in the NFLA under the proposed bylaw. Lee Downes withdrew his bylaw proposal.

Jon Cole presented proposed bylaw Article VII regarding no contribution of funds to other organizations, due to the fact that the Association's expenses exceed its income. There was some discussion as to whether dues payments, such as those currently made to the RC&D and Flathead Coalition, should also be regarded as a contribution.

Ed Heger presented a proposed bylaw amendment to strike Article VIII of the bylaws. This Article lists all of the dates of known bylaw amendments and must be amended every time the bylaws are amended.

Richard Wackrow inquired whether the voting on the bylaw proposals at the August meeting could be held at a specific time to allow for everyone to vote. It was suggested that the bylaws be voted on at 9:15 PM, followed by the election of officers.

Molly advised that Don and Sue Sullivan requested that they be allowed to use the hall on Sundays for community worship service with a rental fee waived. Molly advised that the board agreed unanimously that the Sullivan's could use the hall on Sunday mornings for that purpose, but that it was appropriate to have uniform application of the rental fee policy. There was concern about the precedent that would be established by making exceptions to the rental fee policy. Lynn agreed that we have an established a policy and

we should not start making exceptions.

Molly advised that at the February Interlocal, officers of the North Fork Road Coalition for Health & Safety indicated they would be interested in becoming a signatory to the Interlocal Agreement. Molly recently confirmed their interest in joining. She advised that she wanted to raise the matter with the NFLA membership, as one of the existing signatories to the Interlocal Agreement who will vote on additional signatories. Molly read the criteria for becoming a signatory to the Interlocal. Discussion on the matter followed. It was agreed that the subject would be raised at the Interlocal meeting on Wednesday.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.