

**North Fork Landowners Association Business Meeting,
October 2, 2010 Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Betsy called the meeting to order at 8:05pm.

2. Roll Call of officers: Betsy Holycross, Margaret Heaphy, Molly Shepherd, Valerie Cox, Lee Secrest, Tom Edwards, Richard Hildner, Debo Powers

All officers were present except for Val Cox.

3. Val's leave of absence

Betsy announced that Val has taken a leave of absence. To carry on her duties, Bonny Ogle has been appointed Treasurer and she has accepted. Debo Powers agreed to take the minutes.

4. September meeting minutes

Debo read the minutes from the September business meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

5. Treasurer's report

Betsy gave the Treasurer's Report. Income for September was \$505 and expenses were \$494.42. Betsy told the membership that the NFLA had ended the budget year with a deficit of \$ 6.67 after taking into account donations that were made in September for social events that had taken place during the summer. The NFLA's total cash assets are \$11,553.94.

6. NFLA Committee Reports

a. Trails (John Fredrick)

John Fredrick had nothing new to report.

b. Fire mitigation (Molly Shepherd)

Molly Shepherd announced that the Fuels Mitigation Grant that the NFLA had applied for with five other communities was denied. They are planning to apply individually and hope to have better results. Jimmy DeHerrera reported that the Red Whale Sale is going forward. Because there have been no local fires to fight this fall, they are getting more work accomplished on the project than expected. College students have been hired to put up the new Forest Service signs. The committee is planning to schedule a speaker on insect damage in June. There was some discussion about the attacks of the Spruce Bud Worm.

c. Weeds (John Fredrick)

John Fredrick reported that the committee has applied for another RAC grant to continue weed education. If the grant is approved, there will be two river floats sponsored with Glacier Park to pull weeds on the Park side of the river. This summer, the weed committee surveyed weeds on Forest Service land on roads, trails, and land bordering private landowners. At this point, 81% of the Forest Service property bordering private land has been surveyed.

d. History (Debo Powers & Morgan Hart)

Debo Powers reported that the North Fork History Project does not intend to ask for any money from the NFLA for expenses for the project. Rather, the committee will raise all of the needed funds beginning with an auction in July. She asked that any landowners who are interested in participating in the project give her their contact information so that they can be notified of any meetings.

e. Social (Gerry Sterns, Carol Grobe, Donna Harrison)

Alice Caldwell was asked by the committee (Gerry Sterns, Carol Grobe, and Donna Harrison) to present the proposed budget for the committee members who were not present. Betsy relieved her of that duty in order to explain to the membership what the Board had decided concerning the budget. First, she commended the committee for their efforts in setting up a full social calendar for next year. She said that the Board had approved a smaller budget for social activities than had been proposed by the committee. She reported that the Board has decided that NFLA money will not be used next summer to pay the bands

for two proposed dances. Instead, a cover charge will be taken at the door (\$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 18). Two donors have offered to pay any expenses that are not covered by the entrance fee. The Board approved a budget of \$250 to cover the cost of purchasing a used CD player and speakers to be used at the Hall and for miscellaneous expenses associated with various other events.

Margaret Heaphy and Alice Caldwell reported that they will be hosting Christmas dinner at the Hall. The Harts reported that they are hosting a New Year's Eve party & potluck at the Hall. Betsy reported that Debo Powers will be the "point of contact" for the Board on social calendar issues.

7. Website (Patti Craig-Hart)

Patti Craig-Hart reported that committee reports have been added to the NFLA website.

8. Non-NFLA entities (quasi governmental)

a. North Fork Patrol (Lee Downes/Larry Wilson/Lynn Ogle)

Lee Downes reported that it is now hunting season and to be on the lookout for problems with hunters. He asked that people take license plate numbers if there is a problem. It was reported that a deputy has been giving tickets for speeding on the North Fork Road.

b. Fire chief (Lynn Ogle)

Elmer Benson reported that there are now maps that locate the areas where alert landings for emergencies can take place. These maps were made available to members at the meeting.

c. NFLUAC (John Fredrick)

John Fredrick reported that the next meeting will be in July probably preceding the NFLA business meeting.

9. Old and Continuing Business

a. Food drive (Bob Grimaldi)

Alice Caldwell reported that she is collecting the food and checks this month. Checks should be made out to the Columbia Falls Food Bank.

b. Corridor study final report

Betsy reported that the final study report can be found on the Internet. She also had copies of the Corridor Study newsletter for anyone who wanted one.

c. Hall cleanup/hall committee (Dennis Groebe's report with Duke Hoiland and Lynn Ogle)

Betsy thanked Dennis, Duke, and Lynn for their Hall assessment. She reported that board members had taken responsibility for most of the items on the "must-do" list. She also reported that Lee Secret will be the "point of contact" on the Board for Hall maintenance issues.

d. Newsletter

Betsy reported that there will only be one newsletter in the spring and that the membership form will be updated to allow the option of receiving it in electronic form or through the mail.

e. Any other old business?

Jerry O'Neil, who is a candidate for the Montana House of Representatives from Flathead County introduced himself and spoke for a minute.

10. New Business?

Several members raised issues concerning the Interlocal meeting. They would like to see more time to ask agency representatives questions. Betsy said that there should be a discussion about this at the Interlocal meeting in February. Larry Wilson suggested that landowners send questions to Betsy so that she can send these to the various agencies ahead of time so that they come to the meeting prepared to answer the questions.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34pm.