

NFLA Business Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2017

1. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Rachel Peura.
2. The roll call of officers indicated that Chris Heitz, Larry Wilson, Jan Caldwell, Karen McDonough, and Rachel Peura were present. Absent were President Randy Kenyon, Secretary Donna Harrison, and North Director Irv Heitz. In addition, there were 23 members present.
3. Rachel read the minutes from the June meeting, and there were no corrections. They were approved as read.
4. Chris Heitz gave the Treasurer's Report. She reported that there was \$25,937.40 in total assets, which included \$15,000 being moved into a separate account opened at the Whitefish Credit Union called the "Emergency Reserve Fund." She noted that her review of old minutes had revealed that this account was voted on and approved in August, 2014, but that the account had been "noted", but not separated out and opened. Funds in this Emergency Fund would be used for repair or replacement of the roof, repair or replacement of the generator, or repair or replacement of any of the outbuildings.

5. Committee Reports:

Patrol (Lynn Ogle)

This winter, the Patrol reported 10 properties had signs of break-in, vandalism, or property damage. They remind us all to be aware: watch, get license numbers, and description of individuals or vehicles that appear suspicious. As hunting season approaches, the Patrol asked that property owners give written permission to those individuals allowed to hunt on their property, and please notify the Patrol as well.

Fire (Lynn Ogle)

The audience was told that with the onset of the frequent winds, the fire danger has been moved to HIGH. Property owners were again reminded that they would be liable for damage to other property if one of their fires (campfire, burn pile, etc) got out of control and burned adjacent property. We were reminded that Open Burning was over – even with a Permit – as of yesterday, June 30th.

ALERT- Kalispell Regional Medical Center (KRMC) is no longer offering annual memberships for use of their ALERT helicopter air ambulance transport. Rachel agreed to look into this but speculated it was a result of MT state legislation that was passed requiring private health insurers to cover air ambulance companies as participating providers.

Fire Mitigation will be a "hot" topic at the Firewise and InterLocal meeting on July 19th. Byron Bonney will be the featured speaker at the 9:30 am Firewise presentation, focusing on the Roaring Lion fire in Hamilton. The North Fork Fire Plan will be updated.

History (Lois Walker)

The new Chair of the History Committee reviewed recent oral interviews that occurred and requested assistance from land owners to “proof” transcriptions of earlier interviews. She reminded the audience of the upcoming Tour of the Miller Homestead in the Big Prairie section of Glacier Nat’l Park. Interested people are to meet Jan Caldwell at 10 AM at the Mercantile for car pooling.

Over 1100 photos have been scanned, and she reminded anyone with old historic photos to please let her know so that they can also be scanned and preserved. She is now in the process of documenting historic structures, and asked if anyone had old buildings, or remnants, to contact her. She reported on the old Ford schoolhouse/Funk cabin and said that she hoped the new Forest Service archeologist, Mike Flowers, would be at the InterLocal. Lois will present a Budget to the current BOD in writing for the next fiscal year before September 1.

Social (Karen McDonough & Jan Caldwell)

Karen reported that 23 people had attended the Game Night on Monday, June 26th, and kids are encouraged to attend – she will have games for all ages. Jan advised the audience to check their calendars carefully as July had a lot to offer.

6. Old Business

ANTS- Karen McDonough reported that Duke Hoiland had donated a large container of ant and insect spray to take care of the ant problem, and Jan Caldwell had sprayed both the exterior and interior of the Hall. She noted that the firewood that had been brought into the Hall during the Spring Cleanup had added to the problem, and asked that everyone take an armload of wood back out to the woodshed as they were leaving tonight’s meeting.

Several people voiced their appreciation of the recent **CPR and 1st Aid classes** taught by Bob Lee, and held at the Hall on May 30 and June 20. His classes were interesting, and offered a wealth of practical information such as where tourniquets, splints, compression bandages, etc. can be purchased. He also covered the use of the AED that is mounted on the rear wall of the Hall.

7. New Business

- Rachel Peura asked for thoughts from the audience on the possibility of changing the business/general meetings to Sundays from the current Saturdays. She provided several reasons for the considered change: all of us have occasional visitors staying with us and Sunday might be a less busy night; Business owners may find Sunday easier than Saturdays to attend and Sundays would allow our 7th Day Adventist neighbors to attend meetings and participate on Committees and the Board. The Board is aware of the decreased attendance at meetings and is exploring ideas to increase attendance and participation.

Discussion included members that said they would likely miss all the meetings because of needing to close up their cabins and heading back home on Sundays, and the question that Saturday has worked for 70 years so why change a proven thing. Rachel was advised that it would mean changing the Bylaws, and in order for that to happen something had to be put in writing tonight so that it could be voted on at the upcoming August 5th meeting.

- Rachel Peura asked for discussion regarding the creation of “Neighborhood Committees.” The purpose would be to encourage neighbors to be aware of the health and safety of their neighbors and neighborhood, such as knowing where the nearest 1st Aid kit was, the nearest phone to call for help, and what professionals are in the neighborhood. Bonny Ogle said there used to be a “Sunshine Committee” that welcomed newcomers, and suggested that this welcoming should include educating new property owners about bears and fire, and inviting them to participate in our organization. She commented that this type of information could also be worked into the Neighborhood Committee concept.
 - Bill Walker spoke about the upcoming InterLocal on Wednesday, July 19th. The Preservation Association is this year’s host. He asked that any questions people had be directed to him so that he could pass the question on to the appropriate Agency ahead of time. He reminded the audience to bring side dishes to add to the lunch.
 - The audience was reminded of 2 upcoming events: July 12th the Esther Chrisman Birthday picnic was going to be held at the Chrisman cabin; and July 19th the program “Emergency 1st Aid for the North Fork” would be presented by Drs. Ted and Rachelle Losey (Rachelle is the daughter of Jerry and Linda Wernick).
8. Larry Wilson motioned, Bill Walker seconded, that the History Committee be given a Budget amount of \$408 for the remainder of this 2016-2017 Fiscal Year. The reimbursement of the scanner and other items would be taken out of this Budget. Lynn Ogle called for the Question, and the Motion was passed.

The meeting was adjourned.