



North Fork Landowners' Association

Sondreson Community Hall

October 4, 2014, 8:00 p.m.

- I. **Call to Order/Roll Call of Officers** - President Karen McDonough called the meeting to order. The following board members were present: Karen McDonough, Donna Harrison, Bonny Ogle, Allen Chrisman, Paul Marotz, Alan Mc Neil, and Debo Powers. Carol Grobe was not present. There were 23 members present.
- II. **Minutes from September Business Meeting** – Debo read the minutes from the last business meeting. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved.
- III. **Treasurer’s Report** – Bonny gave the report and informed the membership that there is a total of \$11,526 in the NFLA accounts.
- IV. **Board Report** - Karen gave the board report. She reported that she and Donna had performed the accounting audit and that everything was in order. Donna thanked Bonny for her work as Treasurer this year. Bonny introduced Heather Sullivan who has volunteered to serve as Treasurer for the following year. Allen Chrisman discussed the budget for the current year. There are separate accounts for (1) operating expenses, (2) hall improvement projects, and (3) the reward fund. The budget is based on conservative estimates for dues, fundraisers, and donations and leaves a positive balance of \$162. All proceeds from cookbook sales will go into the hall improvement fund. Cookbook sales will be announced in the enrollment letter and will be sold at Thanksgiving.
- V. **Board Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Floor Project** – Alan McNeil reported that the hall floor is finished and the project was completed under budget. Alan thanked everyone who helped.
 - b. **Hall Maintenance** – Paul Marotz thanked the following people for their help on Hall improvement: Dennis Grobe and Irv Heitz for their work on the cabinet, Gerry Stern for rugs, Duke & Naomi Hoiland for the shelf, Lee Secrest, Chuck

Ludden, Lynn Ogle, Randy Kenyon, Karen & Gary McDonough, Donna Harrison, Becky Braunig, and Bill Walker for work on the back porch and the stove.

- c. Enrollment Letter--Allen Chrisman reported that the enrollment letter will be mailed to all landowners around November 1. He thanked the board for their work this year and specifically appreciated Alan McNeil for the floor project.

VI. NFLA Standing Committees

- a. Fire Mitigation Committee - Allen reported that the emphasis for fire mitigation grants is property on Trail Creek Road. There is \$70,000 left in grant funds.
- b. North Fork History Project - Debo reported that the committee has not conducted any new interviews lately but they have plans to do so.
- c. Trails Committee - Debo asked Bill Walker to report on trail maintenance projects in the North Fork. Bill reported that the North Fork Trail Association has been busy all summer with trail clearing, scouting, and surveying. The NFTA applied for RAC funding which was denied, but there are many projects planned for next year including the Cleft Rock Trail.
- d. Weeds Committee - It was reported that there has been \$280 in donations earmarked for weed projects since the last business meeting.
- e. Social Committee – Carol reported that they will be putting together the calendar for next year. Ideas for community events should be sent to Carol.

VII. Other Reports

- a. Fire Chief – Bonny gave the report for Lynn Ogle who was not present. Bonny reported that there will be a prescribed fire in Canada just above the border. Allen added that no permit is required for open burning which started on Oct. 1.
- b. North Fork Patrol – Mark Heaphy reported that there would be a meeting in two weeks. The 501c3 application has been submitted. He reminded everyone that hunting season will bring more strangers to the North Fork and asked that landowners should be aware.
- c. NFLA Website - Patti Hart announced that the website has had 10,000 views in the past year, about 20-40 views a day. The most popular place on the website is the calendar. The history page is the second most popular spot.

VIII. Old Business:

- a. Cookbook – Donna reported that 101 greyscale cookbooks have been sold.
- b. Winter Interlocal Meeting – Allen Chrisman reported that the meeting will be sponsored by the County. Any questions that landowners want agencies to address should be sent to Allen ahead of time so that he can forward these to the representatives so that they come to the meeting prepared to answer. The North Fork Trail Association will be asking for recognition as a North Fork organization. Allen made a motion that we support this request. The motion was seconded by Debo. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. New Business:

- a. Announcement--Gerry Stern had an accident and broke her leg. She is at the retreat in Kalispell by the hospital.
- b. Montana Tree Farm Program--Allen reported that the Montana Tree Farm Program will be hosting their Annual Meeting at the hall on October 11. They will also be hosting tours of the Hoiland Family Tree Farm and the Chrisman/Wiley Family Tree Farm as part of the day. Anyone interested is invited to attend.
- c. Year-end Food Drive – Karen asked for a volunteer to take our collected food to the food bank. Randy Kenyon volunteered to do it. Checks should be made out to the Columbia Falls Food Bank. The Home Ranch Bottoms collected a big box of food to add to our donations.
- d. Thanks and appreciations were expressed to Karen for her leadership this year.
- e. New Year's Eve party--Patti announced that the Harts would be hosting the New Years Eve Party this year. Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners will also be held at the Hall.
- f. Karen ended the meeting by saying that she was proud of work that our community has accomplished this year.

X. Adjourn 8:54pm.