



North Fork Landowners' Association

Business Meeting Minutes

Sondreson Community Hall

Saturday, July 11th 8:00 PM 2015

- I. **Call to Order/Roll Call of Officers** – The meeting was called to order shortly after 8:00 by President Karen McDonough. The Silent Auction had begun at 7:00 prior to the meeting.
- II. **Introduction of new Polebridge Ranger Sharon Olsen**—Karen introduced Sharon who talked for a few minutes about her new job.
- III. **Minutes from June Business Meeting** – Debo read the minutes from the June meeting. Bonny made one small correction concerning the ending balance in the June Treasurer's Report which was \$15,813.96. The minutes were approved as corrected.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** – Bonny gave the Treasurer's Report and reported a balance of \$16,300.44 which is a combination of all three accounts: operating, hall improvement, and criminal activity/poaching fund.
- V. **Board Report** – Karen presented the board report.
 - Karen reported that the North Fork Patrol had asked NFLA for approval to refurbish the historical sign announcing private ownership on the North Fork Road. There will be a slight change in wording from North Fork Landowners to North Fork Patrol. Alan McNeil made a motion to approve the refurbishing and Lynn Ogle seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - The Membership Committee is working on a letter to be sent to all new landowners with information about fire mitigation, living in bear country, and responsibility for managing noxious weeds.
 - Karen also announced that the following candidates will be running for positions in the August NFLA Elections. Randy Kenyon is running for President and Jan

Caldwell is running for South Director. Allen Chrisman is running for re-election as the North Director. There is no candidate for Vice President at this time. Anyone who is interested in any of these positions should contact Karen or another board member. There can also be nominations from the floor.

VI. Board Committee Reports

- a. **Hall Maintenance** – Paul reported that the threshold has been fixed and the handrails have been sanded and oiled. He announced that there will be a work party for oiling the interior walls of the Hall.

VII. NFLA Standing Committees

- a. **Fire Mitigation Committee** – Lynn reported that the Trail Creek thinning project has begun. Firewise Day would be on Wednesday morning, July 15, from 9:30 to 12:00 prior to the Interlocal.
- b. **North Fork History Project** – Debo reported that the committee has recorded interviews from Joe Lang and Bob Gramaldi and that these will be posted on the website soon. She also said that there will be a video interview of Tom Reynolds.
- c. **Trails Committee** – Debo reported that 16 people participated in the first annual Summer Solstice Sunset Hike to Cyclone Lookout in June. There will be a short, easy hike scheduled each month during the summer. She asked that interested hikers contact her by email or snail mail.
- d. **Weeds Committee** – Val was not present, but John Frederick reported that he had a sprayer available for loan. He asked that borrowers leave a note so that he would know who had it.
- e. **Social Calendar** – Carol reported on upcoming events on the calendar.

VIII. Other Reports

- a. **Fire Chief** – Lynn distributed printed information on the fire season and how to protect your property, your family, and yourself. He covered planning in advance of a fire and escape routes if a fire is approaching. (See attachment.) Since the North Fork is facing a potentially dangerous fire season, there was much discussion.
- b. **North Fork Patrol** – Lynn reported that a trio of grizzly bears had been moved to Frozen Lake. They had been killing sheep on the eastside.

Lynn distributed printed information for the North Fork Patrol which included getting license numbers and descriptions of strange vehicles and people, as well as suggestions for those who rent property. (See attached material.) He added that the North Fork Patrol is not responsible for damages or theft on your property. He advised calling the Sheriff's Department.

- c. **NFLA Website** – Patti announced that the agenda for Firewise Day is posted on the website.

IX. Old Business:

- a. **Cookbook** – Donna reported that there are less than 90 cookbooks left to sell. They are being sold at the Polebridge Merc, Home Ranch Bottoms, and the Montana House in Apgar.
- b. **Tree Farmers of the Year**—It was announced that Duke and Naomi Hoiland have won the western regional division and are now national finalists with three other families for Tree Farmers of the Year. Patti explained how people can vote online for the Hoilands and watch their webinar.
- c. **Thanks**—Karen thanked Randy Kenyon and Bill Walker for cutting the grass around the Community Hall.

X. New Business:

- a. **Firewise and Interlocal on July 15**—The newly formed North Fork Trails Association is hosting the Interlocal. Bill Walker reported that the list of questions that landowners want answered would be sent to the agencies the following day and that anyone who wanted to add a question must do so that night. He added that NFTA was accepting donations to help pay for burgers and reminded everyone that the lunch was potluck.
- b. **Border Patrol Neighborhood Barbeque**—Karen reported that the Border Patrol will be hosting its annual barbeque at the Border at 5:00pm on July 29. She added that these events are always informative.
- c. **Silent Auction results**—Carol Bartrum reported that the Silent Auction had earned \$902 for the NFLA. Everyone cheered. It was also announced that Cecily McNeil had donated two paintings by Ruth Sondreson. One was auctioned and one will be hung in the Hall next to Ruth's picture.

X. Adjourn 9:00

Minutes submitted by Debo Powers