



NORTH FORK LANDOWNER'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Membership Minutes
Sondreson Hall
September 8, 2019, 8 PM**

Mark Schiltz of Montana Land Reliance (www.mtlandreliance.org) provided a presentation on conservation easements and how they may benefit future generations at 7PM. For those who wish to contact him, he may be reached via the web page or email to mark@mtlandreliance.org. Phone 406-837-2178.

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by President Bill Walker.

Board Members Present:

Bill Walker, President
Steve Kelly, Vice-President
Chris Heitz, Treasurer
Karina Pettey, Secretary

Irv Heitz, North Director
Lynn Ogle, North Director
Jim Rittenburg, South Director
Larry Wilson, Past President

Board Members Absent:

Kevin Ulrichsen, South Director

Minutes

Karina Pettey read the August 11, 2019 minutes.

Irv Heitz questioned the terms of the South Directors. Larry Wilson clarified the position he took at the August meeting that the person receiving the most votes would serve the 2 year term and the runner-up would serve out the 1 year term of the position vacated by Bill Walker when he became president. The terms stand as stated in the August minutes.

Kevin Ulrichson – one year term

Jim Rittenberg – two year term

Treasurer's Report

Chris Heitz gave the treasurer's report as a combined August and Year End Report as the NFLA fiscal year ends August 31, 2019. (Addendum 1)

August had 370 paid members and net total income of \$2,375 from dues and donations and a transfer of \$2,000 from the WFCU savings account to the operating fund to cover August expenses of \$2,294.13. Expenses included the annual fire/general liability insurance policies, propane and expenses from the various committees. Chris reminded us that she had moved \$3,000 to WFCU savings in May and earned interest on it until \$2,000 of the funds were needed to cover the large insurance/propane expenses in August.

Year to Date membership was 370 paid members. 2020 Membership fees are due and payable as of September 1, 2019.

Opening Fund Balances	\$26,718.80
2018-2019 Income	\$8,953.63
2018-2019 Expenses	\$7,246.72
Ending Fund Balances	\$28,425.71

These results are unaudited and any changes as a result of the audit will be reported in October.

The board thanked Chris for her report.

Committee Reports

NF Patrol – (Addendum 2) Mark Heaphy was not able to attend and emailed a brief update. Archery season started September 7 and rifle season for bear/moose/wolf opens on September 15. Grouse/upland bird season has already started. There have been no known incidents regarding North Fork properties and the patrol plans to hold its second meeting of the year between October 20 – 26, 2019. If you notice something, get a license number and turn it in.

Firewise Report – Lynn Ogle asked North Fork landowners to turn in their time spent on fire mitigation and fuel reduction to Molly for inclusion in our Firewise Report. Red-Whale fuels reduction prescribed burn, an 1,114 acre project, is schedule for mid/late September and October. In addition the USFS is targeting about 750 acres in the Moose-Moran project. Lynn reported that the fire on the Red Meadow Drainage was assessed by a crew and they are keeping an eye on it with an engine and fly overs. Given the weather, they are going to let the fire burn. Lynn reminded members that burn season does not open until October 1, 2019.

Sunshine Committee – Bonny sent out one thank you and one birthday card in August and has some catching up to do.

Welcome Committee – No report

History Committee – (Addendum 3) Lois Walker provided a “This Day in History” report from 100 years ago, of interest was the completion of the Outside-the-North-Fork Rd in 1919-1920.

Old Business

Electrical Outlets – Irv Heitz reminded members that the use of extension cords are no longer needed in Sondreson Hall. The outlets along both walls are no longer tied to ground-fault interrupters. The only GFCI is the outlet under the window. Please do not use extension cords unless a projector is being used for presentations.

Fence - Irv noted that the fence is down and there will be a work party to burn the fence in October.

New Business

2019-2020 Budget (Addendum 4)

Chris Heitz presented the 2019-2020 budget and noted that the proposed budget is significantly less than 2019 as the extensive outhouse and fence repairs are no longer necessary. A strong fund raiser(s) generating \$1,000 is a key part of our budgeted income for the next fiscal year. Fund raisers might include a pie auction and rummage sale, we are open to other ideas. Two large items for 2020 include replacing the treasurer’s computer and re-venting the outhouse. The budget of \$8,850 was moved, seconded and approved by acclamation.

The existing treasurer’s computer can’t handle 2020 software upgrades. It will be replaced and is expected to last about 7 years. The old computer will be available to use with the projector for presentations at Sondreson Hall.

Audit Committee - Membership appointed Bonny Ogle and Bonnie Hankey to serve on the audit committee.

Supply Committee - Richard Hildner was appointed by NFLA membership to manage the supplies stored at Sondreson Hall and ensure the membership supported move to paper products from plastic.

2020 Calendar - Larry Wilson volunteered to organize the 2020 NFLA sponsored presentations that precede the monthly membership meetings. Ideas for consideration include a report on Sperry Chalet and a History Presentation. Dawn Jacobson will assist Larry and pull together information for the other activities that appear on the NFLA calendar.

Food Truck - Dennis Groebe proposed that we invite a local food truck vendor to park at Sondreson Hall every other Friday evening during the summer. We need to check insurance liability for the NFLA and make sure the vendor carries coverage as well. Larry Wilson stated that he would visit with the food truck vendors at the Columbia Falls Farmer’s Market to see if there was any interest and report back.

Kitchen Sink at Sondreson Hall – The kitchen sink is not functional as the original dry well filled up. A septic system was not installed as the NFLA gave up on well drilling after 4 dry wells. Blue shale is at 100’ and members no longer wanted to drink out of the creek. Members currently haul water in from private wells for use at NFLA events.

Irv Heitz stated that basins will be provided for the sink and the piping will be blocked and the bucket underneath removed. Any gray water should be disposed of in the outhouse.

Bill Walker adjourned meeting at 9:10 PM.

Minutes by Karina Pettey

NFLA Secretary