



**NORTH FORK LANDOWNER'S ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA**

Sondreson Hall
August 9, 2020, 8pm

Board Members

☒ Bill Walker, President
☒ Steve Kelly, Vice-President
☒ Chris Heitz, Treasurer
☒ Karina Pettey, Secretary
☒ Larry Wilson, Past President

☒ Irv Heitz, North Director
☒ Lynn Ogle, North Director
☒ Jim Rittenburg, South Director
☒ Kevin Ulrichsen, South Director

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Minutes of July 12, 2020 Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

- North Fork Patrol
- Firewise Report
- Sunshine Committee
- Welcome Committee
- Supply Committee
- History Committee Report
- Maintenance Committee

Old Business

- NF Land Use Advisory Committee update

New Business

Award

North Fork Landowners Association Election of Officers for 2020-2021



**NORTH FORK LANDOWNER'S ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

Sondreson Hall
August 9, 2020, 8pm

Presentation regarding the history of North Fork planning and zoning provided by Mike Connor and Tom Jentz was well received by those in attendance.

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 Petley, Secretary
Larry Wilson, Past President
Irv Heitz, North Director
Lynn Ogle, North Director
Kevin Ulrichsen, South Director

Board Members Absent

Jim Rittenburg, South Director

Opening Remarks

President Bill Walker briefly reviewed the events of the year and complimented North Fork residents for their resilience and adaptability.

Minutes of July 12, 2020 Meeting

Minutes approved by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report (Attachment 1)

- Chris Heitz reported:
 - 370 paid members, 2019-2020 dues are good until August 31.
 - September 1 begins a new fiscal year for the NFLA and membership due payments will be due after that date.
 - \$29,686.32 Total funds with \$15,000 in reserve. Income was \$40 and the July loss was \$239.
- The Treasurer was thanked for her report.

Committee Reports

North Fork Patrol –

- Mark Heaphy reported bow hunting season begins September 5, 2020.

Firewise Report – Lynn Ogle reported:

- Molly and Allen could not attend.
- Fire status is "status quo. No fires outside of a campfire ring and keep water available. Please report any "smokes" immediately and fire danger is currently "High".
- The new sign regarding fire danger is in place and being maintained.
- We are dealing with a fire bug, 8 set fires in the park and additional similar fires in other areas.

Sunshine Committee – Bonny Ogle – Sent out 3 cards. She always welcomes donations of cards.

Welcome Committee – Bill Walker – Gerry Stearns not present there is no report.

Supply Committee – Richard Hildner – no report

History Committee Report – (Attachment 2) Lois Walker provided information regarding her research into the history of the Polebridge Mercantile and border agent Robert Stevenson.

Maintenance Committee Report – Irv Heitz reported that pest control efforts continue.

Old Business

North Fork Land Use Advisory Committee - Randy Kenyon provided an update regarding NFLUAC and Flathead County Board of Adjustment meetings.

- 42 NF residents showed up at the Board of Adjustment meeting on August 4 to participate in discussion regarding the 3 conditional use permits.
- Application regarding the cabins on 15 acres adjacent to Home Ranch Bottoms was denied when the applicant failed to appear. Application may not be brought back before the committee for 1 year.
- Northern Lights Land, LLC (Home Ranch Bottoms) applicant did appear in time to defend the application. Her request to table until the next meeting was granted by the Board.
- Rising Wolf Retreat application was denied after extensive testimony by area residents. The issues raised by this application and these applicants will be ongoing.
- NFLUAC will be meeting to review the North Fork plan.
- Mark Heaphy made the point that the best way to avoid conflict is to be pro-active, if you have new neighbors, go meet them and share info.

New Business

Award – An anonymous donor is working through the NFLA to offer an award of upto \$10,000 for the arrest and conviction of the North Fork arsonist.

Elections – Larry Wilson presided over the election of 2020 – 2021 officers. Everyone is up for election except North Director Irv Heitz and South Director Jim Rittenburg who each have 1 more year on their terms of office.

President – Bill Walker was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Vice President – Steve Kelly was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Treasurer – Chris Heitz was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Secretary – Karina Pettey was nominated and elected by acclamation.

North Director – Lynn Ogle and Kenna Halsey were nominated, and Kenna Halsey elected by paper ballot.

South Director – Kevin Ulrichsen and Annie Conkler were nominated, and Kevin Ulrichsen elected by paper ballot.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:03pm

Minutes recorded by Larry Wilson and Karina Pettey, and prepared by Karina Pettey, NFLA Secretary

North Fork Landowner's Association

Income/Expense

July, 2020

1 new member = 370 Total

INCOME SUMMARY

GENERAL FUND INCOME

Donations	\$0.00	YTD \$	2,155.00	134.69% of Budget Amount
Dues	\$15.00	YTD \$	4,860.00	113.02% of Budget Amount
	\$0.00			
	\$0.00			
Donation to Patrol/Poaching Fd (Passthrough)	\$25.00	Donation to NF Patrol from S Berg (ck made out to NFLA)		
	\$40.00			

IMPROVEMENT FUND INCOME

WFCU Dividends Earned	\$0.00
Donation for Hall Use	\$0.00

EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND INCOME

WFCU Dividends Earned	\$0.00
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CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/POACHING FUND INCOME

WFCU Dividends Earned	\$0.00
Donation Poaching Fd - WFCU (Passthrough)	\$0.00
TOTAL MONTH'S INCOME	\$40.00

EXPENSE SUMMARY

GENERAL FUND EXPENSE

	\$0.00	
Sunshine Committee	\$25.00	Ck 2025 - Bonny Ogle reimb for Benson giftcard
Propane Tank Rent	\$60.00	Ck 2026 - CHS 1 yr lease
Firewise	\$119.99	Ck 2028 - Janet Leigh reimb for 50 booklets
Donation to Patrol/Poaching Fd (Passthrough)	\$25.00	Ck 2029 - NF Patrol for S Berg donation
	\$0.00	
	\$0.00	
	\$0.00	
	\$0.00	
Treasurer's Stipend	\$49.00	Ck 2027 - Chris Heitz
	\$278.99	

IMPROVEMENT FUND EXPENSES

Transfer of Funds to Glacier Bank	\$0.00
Safe Dep Box Rent	\$0.00

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/POACHING FUND EXPENSES

Rewards Paid	\$0.00
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TOTAL MONTH'S EXPENSE **\$278.99**

NET CHANGE THIS MONTH **(\$238.99)**

A. Hachmets

NORTH FORK HISTORY PROJECT

August 2020 report

I still have hopes of writing a small booklet on the history of the Polebridge Mercantile and have been gathering information on all of the former owners. I did another short interview with Ray Hart to learn more about Cal and Dottie Oien, who owned the store from 1967 to 1969. Ray and Linda Pittman are the only people I've talked to who remember then very well.

And I did an interview with Karen Feather specifically to learn more about Chrys Landrigan, who has not been responsive to requests for information. Chrys, as it turns out, is good friends with Nancy Lundgren, so I'm working that angle, as well. They became friends when Chrys was working in estate sales for Christie's in New York and Nancy was working as a bartender in a golf club in New Hampshire. It was through Nancy, who came to Montana first, that Chrys came out here. She worked for Karen Feather for a while before she bought the store from her in 1987. She owned it until 1994, when she sold to the Kaufmans.

I gave a second showing of my presentation on the North Fork Road last Friday to a very attentive and interested audience.

I've been reading articles in the old newspapers about the man who was the customs agent at the border for more years than anyone else. His name was Robert B. Stevenson, and he served as customs agent from 1927 to 1931 and then again from 1948 to 1953. He served at various stations with the Canadian customs service for 32 years. In the early days there was often just one agent at the border, who performed customs for both countries.

Mr. Stevenson was Scottish by birth and came to Canada in 1913 as a young man. He was wounded twice while serving in France with the Canadians in World War I. His injuries caused him pain for the rest of his life, like tying muscles into knots and pulling tight.

He and his wife were the only residents of the settlement of Flathead, British Columbia, except when Charlie Wise was staying at his cabin. Their son Rodney went to the Upper North Fork school in the late 1920s.

The interesting story that I found recently is that he finally retired from the Customs service in February 1953. He and Mrs. Stevenson went to California for a few months to visit with their other son William. Then, for whatever reason, he was recalled to active duty, probably because they were finding it impossible to get anyone else to fill the position. On Thursday, the 28th of May, he stopped in Columbia Falls on his way back to the station. People said he appeared to be happy to be back and joked about getting in more trout fishing. The following Tuesday, he shot and killed himself.

They brought his body out through Columbia Falls and thence to Fernie, where he was buried. Larry, of course, remembers the story, because he was 18 at the time. After that, the border was just open in the summer, sometimes on the American side and sometimes on the Canadian, but then the border was closed in 1955 until 1971. After that most of the names I have are American, although there were also people on the Canadian side part of the time. Both stations were closed permanently after the 1995 flood that washed out the bridge and the road to Corbin on the Canadian side.

Ford Schoolhouse

Still now word on a projected date for the Ford Schoolhouse re-roofing project. I'll let everyone know, as soon as I hear.