



## North Fork Landowner's Association Board Meeting Minutes

Sondreson Hall  
November 30, 2021 at 5:00 pm

### Board Members Present

Richard Hildner, President  
Chris Heitz, Treasurer  
Karina Pettey, Secretary  
Bill Walker, Past President

Irv Heitz, North Director  
Jim Rittenburg, South Director

### Board Members Absent

Kevin Halsey, Vice-President  
Kenna Halsey, North Director  
Kevin Ulrichsen, South Director

### 1. Minutes

- 1.1. September 30, 2021, meeting minutes were reviewed and discussed. It was noted by Chris Heitz, after a review of the Sunshine Committee's original mission statement that it does not limit the provision of gift cards to only the families of North Fork Residents. After discussion, the board decided to stay with the Sunshine Committee's original mission statement.

### 2. Treasurer's Update

- 2.1. None

### 3. Committee Reports

- 3.1. Maintenance Committee <sup>(59.30)</sup>  
Board approved purchase of a thermal fan to assist with air circulation on the new wood stove. Chris will order it. A set of fireplace tools and an ash bucket are needed for the hall. Bill will post the request.

### 4. Old Business

- 4.1. Review of History Committee Mission (See attachment A/B) <sup>11.55</sup>
  - 4.1.1. Richard Hildner prefaced the discussion by stating the board's desire for access to historical materials, particularly the oral histories, the ultimate disposition of materials in a safe and secure repository, and the status of deed of gift documents for the materials Lois Walker and the History Committee have gathered.
  - 4.1.2. Lois Walker provided a summary of History Committee work and project expansion since the NFLA authorized its work in 2011. The project was originally started by Debo Powers, Morgan Hart, Patti Hart and Anne Marie Harrod who worked to gather the original oral histories. Lois got involved about 2016. The project has expanded significantly beyond its original 2011 intent of collecting oral histories to be posted on the NFLA website.
  - 4.1.3. Oral histories are now being posted to the updated NFLA website. It is expected that more will be loaded in the next two weeks. Each transcript uploaded will have the audio file (if available), transcript, photo and an introduction. Some of the recording quality is not suitable for uploading and needs editing to remove personal information or extraneous discussions. Even if the recording is not able to be uploaded at this time, the transcript will be uploaded. Some photos and various compilations may be uploaded as well. <sup>58.20</sup>

- 4.1.4. Original committee members did obtain release forms (deeds of gift) for the original oral histories, giving them to the NFLA. The only deeds of gift Lois has done were to the NFLA for interviews. She has not obtained deeds of gift for other acquisitions and collections including those of Larry Wilson, John Frederick (deceased) and Karen Feathers. If a deed of gift is not obtained the documents or information remain the property of the donor. Lois stated she would work to obtain the deeds. A legal opinion may be needed for some of the donations.
- 4.1.5. About 80-85% of the archives have been digitized. Lois is working to digitize as much as possible. A backup of the digital archive is stored in the NFLA safety deposit box.<sup>27.38</sup>
- 4.1.6. Considerable discussion surrounded the topic of archive storage. The Montana Historical Society in Helena, Flathead Valley Community College and various local libraries were discussed. Current issues include lack of capacity and resources to house a collection of this size.<sup>27.00 / 59.00</sup>
- 4.1.7. In summary, the NFLA is concerned about 1) Providing access to things of immediate interest to North Forkers (oral histories) and then 2) permanently protecting the archives and making them accessible to North Forkers and general public.<sup>47.45</sup>
  - 4.1.7.1. Chris requested that language be added to the History Committee mission statement regarding the original intent of the 2011 project of the oral interviews to be available for download from the History Page of the NFLA website. Lois agreed to the change
  - 4.1.7.2. Jim appreciated the update and clarity.
  - 4.1.7.3. Irv is satisfied with the update.
  - 4.1.7.4. Bill stated that the history archive upload is just a small piece of the NFLA website renovations.
  - 4.1.7.5. Guest Lynn Ogle suggested that some of the audio tapes be taken to FVCC and see if they can be remastered to filter out the background noise.
  - 4.1.7.6. Karina would like a timeline for completion of the 2011 project; a clear understanding of who owns the archives outside the scope of the 2011 NFLA board action; clarity on the NFLA's role with regards to the out-of-scope archives; determination if a separate entity/legal structure is needed; and finally obtaining deeds of gift for the collections already received.
  - 4.1.7.7. Richard stated that the Whitefish Library is not prepared to take on this collection at this time.

4.2. Schedule date/time for NFLA board meeting regarding communications strategy. <sup>(60.00)</sup>  
Meeting to be held after February 14, 2022.

4.3. Posting of draft minutes  
Draft minutes of the board and general membership meetings will be posted on the website. Draft board minutes will only be posted publicly after any necessary communication of board actions have occurred.

4.4. Follow up on the Wall of Fame group (To be continued)

4.5. Report regarding Welcome Committee (To be continued)

4.6. Define purpose for Weed Committee (To be continued)

## 5. New Business

### 5.1. Bear Management

Richard discussed collaboration with NFPA regarding bear management. Suzanne Hildner (guest) spoke to the topic as well. Discussion with NFPA will continue, it will take the entire community and partners working together to create a balanced, successful program.

5.2. Trash/Refuse Management (discussed as a part of bear management)

5.3. Bylaws Review Meeting will be scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at a location TBA and possibly on Zoom.

## 6. Board Member Comments

## 7. Board Meeting Scheduled for January 18, 2022. Time and location to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm

Minutes prepared by Karina Pettey, Board Secretary