

NFLA October, 1 2011 Business Meeting Minutes (Draft)

1. Call to Order: President Debo Powers called the meeting to order at 8:02pm
2. Roll Call of Board members: Present were Debo Powers, Betsy Holycross, Karen McDonough, Tom Edwards, Lee Secrest, Alan McNeill and Bonny Ogle. Flannery Coats was absent.
3. September meeting minutes: Betsy read September meeting minutes. Minor corrections were noted. Motion to approve minutes as corrected was made and seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Debo announced that there is a green box with NFLA membership applications in it on the table at the back of the hall. She reminded everyone that whoever hosts anything at the hall needs to remind attendees that they should join up. This is a good way to increase membership.

4. Treasurer's report: Bonny reported that Pat Cole had completed an audit of the NFLA books and that no changes to our assets resulted. Income for September was \$198. Expenses for September were \$738. September net operating income was \$-540. Total cash assets as of the end of September were \$14,554.13.
5. NFLA Committee Reports
 - a. Fire Mitigation: Molly was not in attendance and there was no report.
 - b. Weeds: Val was not in attendance; Debo read report. It was reported that the grant proposal which had been submitted to the RAC committee on September 13 had been successful and approved in its entirety. Larry Wilson, who is part of the RAC committee, said it was the only proposal ever received by RAC which involved cooperation between government agencies and landowners. Our proposal includes the Forest service, county, and three North Fork Associations, the NFLA, the NFPA and the NF Compact. Larry said that it was this level of cooperation that made the difference in getting the funding. The focus of the effort under this new grant will be spraying at the interfaces with

- private/public property and mapping. Discussion followed concerning how best to notify absentee neighbors so that they can make sure their property is included (if there is an interface with the USFS). Additionally, the grant includes funding for making our property (Sondreson Hall) a showcase by eradicating weeds and planting native plants.
- c. History Committee (Morgan Hart): The committee is working on two things: oral history interviews and digital recordings for the old square dance records. Karen McDonough and Annemarie Harrod conducted the first oral history interview with Cecily McNeil. Additional interviews are scheduled for this month. Tom Edwards and Gary Haverlandt are working on digitizing the old square dance records. Tom is checking out a sound system for the Hall to play the recordings. The history committee submitted a budget to the NFLA board for \$1700. This represents 47% of the \$3600 that was raised by the auction and the BOD approved. So far, \$843.76 was spent on: a high-quality recorder with 2 microphones and carrying case; camera; extension cord; portable hard drive and postage. Also, Patti Hart has posted a new History Project page on the NFLA website. This includes interview documents and a list of individuals to be interviewed. Actual interviews will be posted as they become ready. There is also a section on the website for stories about North Forkers which are being solicited from North Fork writers.
 - d. Social Committee—Gerry Stearns: Social committee met in September and came up with a list of new ideas for social activities. Gerry asked that members please provide feedback as soon as possible to her or other social committee members on what they would like to have on the calendar. Committee needs to finalize activities in time to include the new social calendar in the spring newsletter.
 - i. Reintroduce a NF tradition by scheduling movie nights, starting with 2 in May, June and October; 1 in September. Part of social committee budget would go toward LCD projector. Flannery would pick movies
 - ii. Birding class with Dan Casey—Montana expert birder could come up to speak in July

- iii. Yoga—Free class at the hall if enough are interested. Yoga instructor could only do it at 5 in the afternoon. How many would be interested?
 - iv. Fly fishing class—Chris Heitz volunteered Irv as teacher. He would teach beginners class and Danny Dill would teach intermediate.
 - v. Glacier Institute lecture—Community would come up with a topic (anything but bears) and GI would have an expert come up to speak.
 - vi. Gardening class/exchange—in mid June. Donna Harrison will work with AF master gardeners and others to come up with something.
 - vii. Astronomy night—Don Sullivan has agreed to be our go-to expert for this. Star Gazing night probably would be in August.
 - viii. More game nights—maybe a card night, bingo; also perhaps hearts, and cribbage or bridge (old style).
 - ix. 4th of July square dance—should NFLA plan on this? This year it was spontaneous. Committee may ask Jack McFarland to host it.
 - x. Sock hop—as a change from contra or square dances. Would use the 5-CD player at hall. Richard and Gerry already have music mixes
 - xi. Pie and ice cream social—this would be the only live-band dance of the year. Caller would be Kathryn Neff.
 - xii. Picnic at Bowman—need to plan “ad hoc” picnic to avoid \$100 fee.
 - xiii. Wildflower/plant walk
 - xiv. 4 B’s ---biking, boating, birding and book club plus hiking will all be scheduled. Duke has volunteered to lead an Indian Trail walk.
 - xv. Sign party—Making signs to announce these activities is very time consuming. Suggest a sign night/party in early June to make signs for the summer.
- e. Trails—John Fredericks was not in attendance. Debo says trails are open. Early snows have melted and fall snows have not yet arrived. It’s hunting season so wear orange.
 - f. Hall Maintenance—Debo announced that we want to move forward on a new pit toilet. Larry moved that we approve a motion to authorize \$3K for the new pit toilet. Discussion followed. Suggestion was made

to replace whole building. Lee said that was the intent. He would donate lumber; work parties would be needed to get it done. He said we could replace building and pit toilet for less than \$3,000. The tank is \$1,000 and they would try to get it delivered at the same time as another tank delivery to reduce costs. Permitting process is underway. Permit is \$250. Add another \$150 if the county has to come up to inspect. Question was raised about permitting requirement since our pit toilet permit was being "grandfathered in." Lee said that although we were grandfathered, still had to go through permitting process. Gary suggested we should have a building plan for the new structure and thought the Forest Service might have some. Larry suggested that FS outhouses are way too expensive. Some further discussion about costs and Lee reiterated belief that costs could be kept under \$3,000. Motion made again to authorize \$3,000 for pit toilet. Suzanne seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Decision was made to wait on repairing the Hall floor though at next year's Hall cleanup, alternatives will be discussed for interim fixes. Larry suggested talking to Wade Fish at School District 6 to learn about what sealants can be used on top of waxes.

Need to fundraise and get people to donate for these projects was briefly discussed. Agreed to say something about this in newsletter.

6. Report from other entities

- a. North Fork Patrol (Larry Wilson): Larry reminded everyone that hunting season has begun. As more and more forest service roads are closed to hunters, they will be moving to the main roads. People should pay attention to unfamiliar cars parked in strange places. Members were urged to not confront anyone but to make a note of the time, place and license number as well as make and model of car.
- b. Fire Chief: Lynn Ogle was not in attendance. Larry reported that there was a small fire in the park. Also said that open burning season had started but everything was still dry so urged folks to be careful.

c. Website (Patti Hart): Patti reported that the Living with Wildlife pamphlet is on the site and is available to download. Also noted that Hall usage documents now have their own separate link.

7. Old and Continuing Business

a. Signage (Molly): Molly was not in attendance. Debo reported that Molly had found out that we could request a zoning determination from the County Planning and Zoning Department. Obtaining a determination before installing the board would protect us from subsequent challenges. Questions were raised about what kind of signage would be best but it was decided to let Molly go ahead and request the zoning determination and we could discuss further after that information had been received.

b. October food drive: Debo noted that there were boxes in the back. Folks were told they could also contribute cash or checks. Tom Edwards is organizing transportation.

c. Thanksgiving: Steve Berg will be hosting the Thanksgiving dinner again this year. Patti is posting information on the website.

d. Christmas dinner: Caldwelles and Heaphys will host a Christmas dinner again this year.

8. New Business

a. Larry asked about BOD meeting minutes. Debo agreed to post a report of the BOD meeting on the website and make a board report at the June business meeting. Debo indicated that host duties for Hall functions were posted in the kitchen. She also explained that a variety of duties had been assigned to all the BOD members:

--Hall Supplies & Spring Clean-up Day (*Keep the Hall supplied with paper goods, coffee, lemonade, turn in receipts for reimbursement and schedule a Hall clean-up day in the spring*)--
Karen

--Hall Scheduling for events on social calendar & Liaison to the Social Committee (*Be the contact person for scheduling the Hall and stay in touch with the social committee to ensure that events using the Hall do not overlap*)--
Alan

--**Hall Rentals** *(the link between renters and the NFLA. Collect paperwork and checks from groups wanting to rent the Hall; Get the rental check to Bonny and hold the deposit check until after the event; Make sure that renters have a key; Check Hall after rental to see if the group completed all clean-up tasks; If so, send them their deposit check; If not, give the deposit check to Bonny)*--**Tom**

--**Hall Maintenance** *(Organize work parties for Hall maintenance based on need)*—**Lee**

--**Spring Newsletter** *(Solicit articles for the spring newsletter and lay it out)* Additionally, Gerry will continue to keep landowner addresses up to date. The BOD agreed that next spring's newsletter would include a change in the membership application form to include a line item for donations to the poaching fund; and that newsletter recipients will be urged to join the NFLA. Newsletter should be out by end of March, 2012.--**Flannery**

--**Take minutes for board and business meetings** *(Take minutes, print and distribute them, and read at meetings)*—**Betsy**

--**Treasurer duties**--**Bonny**

--**Host NFLA Business meetings.** Host duties for next year's NFLA business meetings were agreed to as follows: June, Karen; July, Bonny; August, Alan; September, Lee; and October, Tom.

b. Alan raised the issue of mile markers for the road. Karen is going to check with the county and report at next June's meeting.

c. Larry has found two good pictures of the Sondresons which he wants to get framed for the Hall. Gerry moved that the NFLA pay "up to \$30" for Larry to get that done. Ted seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Meeting was adjourned at 9:24pm