

Friends of Boyer Chute and DeSoto NWR Inc.

Executive Board Meeting
7:30 PM CDT
June 3, 2009
Boyer Chute NWR

Members Present:

Lori Amberg	Larry Klimek
Larry Jensen	Reg Boyer
Jerry Grove	Todd Wick
Steve Tyler	Sue McDonald
Ralph Guetersloh	

President Lori Amberg called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Two summer interns from DeSoto attended the meeting to become familiar with the Friends group.

Approval of May meeting minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Friends' Checking as of 6/1/2009: \$19,328.68.

CDs Washington County Bank: \$26,985.75.

*IWF Grant Expenditures: \$38.00 for Flying Wild Guide, \$99.91 for IMBD posters.

*Remaining balance: \$4,574.87.

Eagle Emporium Closing Balance as of May 09/09: \$29,469.00.

Grand Total Balance: \$46,314.43.

Jerry stated that the CCR verification has been completed

Committee Reports:

Membership:

One new member from Omaha.

Nobody past due.

Steve Tyler suggested we have a board member call the new members to welcome them to the Friends group. Steve volunteered to make initial contacts. Jerry has a document that lists all members.

Communications:

Newsletter – distribution mid-August

Include: RefugeFest, Bike to Boyer, Summer Interns, Educational Activities, Annual Meeting

Steve checked the Friends Website and checked the history of our site. He shared some data he found about who has visited the website

Larry K. sent a note to NCTC to see if Larry J. can get a scholarship to attend an educational class on setting up an eagle cam at DeSoto.

RAVO (Refuge Activities & Volunteer Opportunities)

Boyer Chute:

Bike to Boyer. Lori said everything is on track. Joe Burns will put some things in the Fort Calhoun section of the paper next week. She will be sending out an e-mail next week to get help the day of the event. Todd will check to see if it is ok to paint on the roads. Lori was asking to see if anyone has some small freebees to give out to children. Several people made suggestions of some possible options. Blair Schools will donate some soft side coolers.

Steve has some American Family frisbees to donate. Lori will e-mail flyer to Todd and Sue. The t-shirt is in the process of being designed. Lori will send out an e-mail to people who will volunteer. Volunteers will get their t-shirt at cost.

DeSoto:

Refugefest. Sue e-mailed the schedule to everyone. Many of the board members will be helping with manning the different activities. Jerry will have some small change available for the concession stand. Steve said they will be selling brats, hot dogs, and pulled pork. Cookies are a cost problem. They will sell them, but not at much profit. He is looking at getting some water and Gatorades donated from Hyvee. He will be getting about 450 individual drinks for the event. Steve suggested making sure we have a trash patrol going during the event. Sue said she would make sure that the trash is monitored. Mark said he could get some gloves for the event. Next year, he suggested they have shuttles run people from Bob Starr Overlook.

Prizes are taken care of for this event. This year they are going to have an Activity Trail Card for the youth to complete. Once completed, they will have their name entered into a drawing. Each participant will get something for completing the activity.

All night fishing set for June 20th. Steve said he would attend this event.

Bookstores

Jerry stated that the Bertrand book is close to being finalized. Reg said that the bookstore is out of the Bertrand Book. Reg said they are looking at adding a mushroom hunters cap to the store. Lori suggested looking at getting small bags with Desoto on it for carrying groceries.

Grants

Steve talked to his contact at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation a couple of weeks ago. She said our time period has lapsed for the grant. He tried to make contact with her yesterday. He is waiting to hear back from her. Larry K. said he would contact them to see if he can move things along.

Eagle Cam

Jim Hartman said that we could have access to the nest in August. Larry J. will meet with others when he gets back from the eagle cam class.

Boyer/DeSoto Report

Larry K. said they are going to have a museum review 6/18 and 6/19.

A new staff person has been hired to replace Jennifer.

Several people have shown interest in donating some money to have some things done around the refuge. He said he would be looking to refer them on to the Friends group.

They are going to be meeting soon on how to outline the Bertrand.

Larry asked to get volunteer gas money to \$25 a day, and not to exceed \$500. The board decided to change it from \$10 to \$25, but not to exceed the agreed \$500.

Dredging construction is still continuing at Boyer. Sue asked for an engineer to attend the annual meeting to explain what they are doing at the refuge.

Jeremy will be leaving soon. Sue will be having a party for him before he leaves. She asked that the Friends Group donate something for him. The Friends Group decided to donate a bag and a book from the bookstore. Ralph moved and Mark seconded it. The board approved it. Jerry will write a check to pay for it.

Sue bought Steven Shanahan, Blair Superintendent, an eagle shirt as a gift from the Friends group and Desoto. She asked to be reimbursed for the \$16. 80. The board approved the motion to reimburse Sue McDonald.

Barb would like to put an ad in the Boy Scout Activity Guide. She asked the Friends group for money to place the ad. Cost would be \$120 for a half page ads. It would be aimed at scout leaders to help scouts complete their merit badges. Steve moved, and Mark seconded it. The board voted on the motion and it was approved.

Old Business.

Status of Bertrand challenge cost share.

As a reminder, the Friends group approved the buying of an Igloo cooler last year, but this was never done. Steve said he would pick up a couple smaller coolers at Sam's for under \$40.

New Business

Friends Conference update. Steve and Mark will wait until the July meeting.

Annual Meeting – Corp presentation and tour should be included. Wait until July.

Eagle Cam workshop. It was brought up that we should help Larry J. with expenses while attending the eagle cam workshop. It was suggested we use the Iowa West Fund to cover the costs. The motion was passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:21 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for July 1, 2009.