



Idaho Master Naturalists – Pend Oreille Chapter

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General Meeting Minutes February 11, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 9:10am by President Clem.

Present: Gail, Jenn, Lynette, Dave P., Jon B., Derek, Pete, Kay, Karen, Cheryl, Kirby, Lori, Clem

Secretary report - Motion by Gail (2nd Dave) to accept Minutes from January – passed unanimously, they will be posted.

Treasurer report – Dennis absent – checking account balance \$1823.21

Volunteer Committee

Dave P. - Citizen Science

- The Clark Fork Delta Restoration Project lead by Kathy Cousins, IDFG will hold a meeting on Feb 20th 10:00am at the Panhandle State Bank (next to Tango Cafe). This will be a very good long term MN project. The meeting will organize teams for specific tasks. All MNs are invited to attend and participate. **Issue – Do Master Naturalists want to form a Team?**
- Waterkeepers office is now on 1st Street – needs volunteers to measure blow-by effect of coal and oil trains on lake and shore. Spills are inevitable. The gathering of data and science is within the MN Citizen Science mission, however, this is also a political issue. We must be neutral in the political arena as a group – individually as citizens we can lobby as we see fit.
- Montana Wilderness Assoc and FSPW are looking for volunteers to lead hikes.
- This weekend is the Audubon Backyard Bird Count

Lynette – Public Outreach

- Volunteers needed for WDC 3rd grade school field trips on Thursdays and Fridays in May (see our calendar)
- MBI leaf litter sorting is ongoing – still have about 500 bags
- Cub scout day camp volunteers are needed on June 18-20

Communication Committee – Lori

- Next newsletter article due by April
- Library program with Shannon Ehlers of MBI scheduled for 15 March 1:30pm – Lynette will confirm

Training Committee – Karen

- Committee is meeting regularly to finalize 2014 classes to be held April 8-May 20 on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and some Saturdays. Presenters will be given choice to do training in spring, or opt for another time of year.
- Some discussion to offer a “teacher” training course next year – one full week of 5 consecutive days geared for teachers after school is over.
- One responder – Betsy Hull from US Army Corps of Engineers may qualify for Professional

Membership category. We will offer her this option.

- Self directed study will be offered this year to class members who miss some of the core classes and other community training opportunities will translate into credits for our training.
- Much discussion was held by all present on the topic of Training vs Volunteer hours – in the case of a member taking a college or extension course – do all the hours involved count as continuing training (each hour in class and in transit)? Or do only the credit hours count (a 3 credit class that runs for 2 months)? Final decision in an amended motion: All hours for classes/training with Idaho natural environment content that further the Master Naturalist mission count as continuing Training hours – not volunteer hours. (Motion by Lynette/ 2nd Gail) Passed unanimously.

WDC Building Committee – Cheryl & Kirby

- Working on floor plan – lots of good ideas. Flexible displays and information about other local groups and resources. Will bring a proposal to the Board with needs and resources. Goal is to have WDC open to public 1-2 days per week in the summer.

Remarks by Pete – work still ongoing in office, tape and paint still needed (Jenn has volunteered to help). Enforcement Officers have been asked to move out of building and store their supplies elsewhere. They can use and schedule the building through the CDA office as anyone who uses the building but do not have an office. The building and grounds are managed by John Rankin. Some of the unused buildings may be torn down to make space for parking. Bats are a problem in some of the standing buildings and solutions are being considered. There is a budget for the WDC to pay for heating, electricity, etc. Other funds can be applied for through the IFWF Grant cycle which is due by April 30, 2014. Sara can assist with writing the grant. The MBI Project will have a trailer parked at the WDC periodically this spring.

Next meeting – March 11 9:00am (then April 8)

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45am

Respectfully submitted, Lori Getts, Secretary

Addendum:

Clark Fork Delta Restoration meeting held 20 February – 13 Chapter members attended. A great showing!

A vote was called for on Feb 26, it passed unanimously:

....regarding the fee recommendation of \$80 per person for the new 2014 Class by the Education Committee.

Last year the \$75 fee barely covered our expenses for the class. Please respond to this message and vote Yes for \$80 fee and No for \$75.