



FRIENDS OF TUALATIN RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX

July 25, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Michael Boreing, Dawn Carovano, Alan Christensen, Cheryl Hart, Tom Hartz, Phyllis Millan, Sharon Miller, Willem Stoeller.

Staff: Bonnie Anderson, Rebecca Chuck, John Schweitzer.

Guest: Karen Strickland (Sherwood Rotary).

I. Quorum

We have a quorum (6 directors required).

II. Excused Absences: Keith Mays, Tom Stibolt, Irene Vlach.

III. Call to Order (2:00pm)

IV. Welcome and Introductions

V. Kudos and Mission Moments

Approval of Agenda

Consent Agenda

1. Standing Committee Reports:
 - Financial Reports
 - Governance Report
 - Membership Report
 - Store Report
2. Draft Minutes of the meeting of 6-25-23
3. ED Report

Dawn mentioned in the Snapshot comments of the finance reports for June that we received \$ 50,591.12 from the ERC government program (Employee Retention Credit) from the pandemic. The money will show up in the July finance reports.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda and the Reports:

1. Tom H.
 2. Phyllis
- Passed.

Reports

1. President – Cheryl Hart
 - The Annual Meeting will be held “in person” on October 14, hopefully including an outdoor activity.
 - Cheryl and Willem participated in an NWRA-coordinated virtual visit with Senator Merkley’s staff to advocate for more funding for USFWS. Senator Merkley is chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, so it was particularly important for Friends’ members from Oregon to meet with him or his staff.

2. Executive Director – Bonnie Anderson
 - The Friends just received an unexpected \$2,500 donation from the Miter Charitable Foundation in Pennsylvania.
 - She has submitted a One Tree Planted grant for \$3,000 for plants and food for volunteers.
 - Staff of Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District conducted a site visit, part of the approval process of our grant request for \$100,000 for restoration on the Oleson Unit.
 - Details of planning for the Beer Festival were covered at a pre-meeting before the regular Board meeting. She is still waiting for payments from some of the sponsors.

3. Refuge Manager - Rebecca:
 - The new Friends’ Agreement is still in process.
 - The visit to Nestucca Bay NWR is scheduled for July 27.
 - Pride event last Saturday was well attended and hopefully will be done annually.
 - Planning for a possible controlled burn later this year if weather conditions are favorable.
 - Rebecca presented training to the Board on the Department of Interior’s Harassment Free Workplace policy. She covered the definition and purpose of the policy, what constitutes harassing conduct, and both employee and management responsibilities.

3. Refuge Maintenance – John Schweitzer

John provided an update on summer maintenance activity on the Refuge.

Old Business

1. Columbia Land Trust Update / King City

King City issued a letter to interested parties that they had selected their preferred alternative on the proposed King City Kingston Terrace Transportation System Plan and Master Plan, in spite of most testimony being in opposition. Phyllis had received a copy of the letter and read it to the Board. An appeal is expected.

2. Beer Festival: Bonnie

The Board held a special meeting prior to the Board meeting to discuss planning for the Beer Festival. A volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated to Board members.

New Business

1. Budget for FY 23-24 Progress: Dawn

Dawn asked that all budget information be given to her by 8-11-23.

2. Guest Speakers Project: Alan

Alan identified five speakers, and he is contacting them to see which dates work best for them. He plans to have speakers in October, November, January, February and March, on Thursday evenings. Friends' members will have first access as a benefit of membership.

Announcements

Adjourn_(3:00)

Motion to adjourn:

1. Michael

Minutes taken by Sharon Miller.