

What: Prairie Smoke meeting minutes
When: 1:30 Sunday the 21st of February 2016
Where: Chatfield Public Library
Why: Annual Meeting, Discussion, Decisions and Elections

Present:

Barb Nigon President
Chuck Kernler Vice President
Dave Edwards Treasurer
Susan Powers Secretary
Sharon Kaufman Webmaster

Dawn Littleton Board Member
Ruthann Yaeger Board Member

Absent:

Joel Dunnette Board Member

Barb motioned to open the meeting at 1:30 p.m. Thirty-two members and guests were in attendance. A soup buffet was offered to all attendees.

Meeting Agenda

Barb welcomed attendees and introduced board members to summarize select accomplishments of 2015.

- Barb highlighted Prairie Smoke's separation from TPE as an amicable agreement.
- Sharon Kaufman reported on the status of Prairie Smoke's website: www.PrairieSmokeMN.org. The site is being updated to directly link with Prairie Smoke banking and e-mail information so that membership dues can be paid via PayPal. Meeting minutes and a list of events can be found on the site. Information on insects is now on the site. Sharon asked members to contact her if they have content to be added or with suggestions.
- Ruthann Yaeger highlighted Prairie Smoke's classification as a non-profit organization. Paperwork and process is stored in Bremer Bank in Eyota.
- Dawn Littleton shared the status of the partnership with Indian Hills and Zumbro River / Quarry Hill, and gave an update on the grants involved.

Election

Officers resigning their positions include: Chuck Kernler, Dave Edwards and Susan Powers, as vice president, treasurer and secretary respectively. Barb announced names of those who'd earlier expressed an interest to serve in these positions, namely Mark Shapiro, Churck Kernler and Ruthann Yaeger.

Barb asked attendees for volunteers to serve on the board. She stated she would continue as president. Jeff Sommerfield, Mark Stopyro and Ryan Kemmerick volunteered to join the board.

Dave Edwards made a motion to approve all afore-mentioned members to serve on the board. Mitch Gilbert from Lanesboro seconded.

As the new treasurer, Chuck Kernler's name will be added as an authorized signature for Prairie Smoke's bank accounts at Bremer.

Presentations of Interest

- Lorissa Motl gave a presentation on SNA.
- MJ shared information on insects from an event offered earlier in Iowa.
- Dawn informed attendees of the upcoming *Sense and Sustainability of Assisi Heights* presentation scheduled at 2:00 on the 6th of March at the Rochester Public Library.

Meeting wrap-up

Barb moved and Ruthann 2nded to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be scheduled as needed.

Also of interest

As a note to Prairie Smoke members, Barb asked the following items be documented:

- All Prairie Smoke equipment is looked over each year to make sure it's in working condition for the spring burn season.
- Prairie Smoke Members can secure equipment by contacting Barb Nigon at 507/285-0496.