

Minutes of March 21, 2018 Board Meeting

Attended: R. Kemmerick, C. Kernler, B. Nigon, S. Powers, M. Stopyro, J. Summerfield, R. Yaeger

Absent: D. Littleton, S. Kaufman

Members present: Walt Nigon

Agenda Items:

- 1) Secretary's report: Nov 2017 and Feb 2018 Annual minutes approved.
- 2) Treasurer report: Mark presented report for Nov 16, 2017 to March 15, 2018. Total balance is \$12,786 with income of \$1525 and \$724 in expenses. Grants for QH and Indian Heights are only major debts still outstanding. Late filing of charitable organization report resulted in a penalty fee - now paid. Mark sent in Federal 990 tax report. Treasurer's report discussed and accepted.

Old Business

1. Annual meeting in Chatfield went well, lots of positive responses to speaker.
2. Prairie Smoke banner: Jeff will follow up on banner for PS events. A design will be produced for consideration. **Motion:** to allot \$50 to buy banner from Minuteman Printers. Passed.
3. 4H program: Barb presented 4H award to winner of the Grand Champion Water & Wetlands achievement award and gave winner a T-shirt as well. Very nice Thank you note received from her. Ruthann will send in form to sponsor a 4H award again this year.
4. Facebook. **Motion** was made to table this issue for later discussion. Passed. Concern was voiced that PS minutes and Treasurer info appeared on social media. Board was reminded that as a 501(c)(3) all our minutes and Treasurer's reports are public information.

New Business

1. New burn policy: Barb explained why new policy is needed. People realize at the last minute that to keep their payments for Pollinator CRP coming, they need to burn. They call and want to burn right away, but have never attended a burn and have no interest in becoming active members. Due to our liability issues and amount of work involved in upkeep of equipment, PS needed to revisit our burn policy and require more commitment from those wishing to use our volunteers and equipment. A policy was drafted for discussion. Suggestions were made and will be incorporated into updated version. This will be sent out for board approval and put on the website.
Side issue: Chatfield Fish & Game Club wants to use PS equipment to burn some property, but they are not members. **Motion**: CF&G must become members before we will loan equipment. Passed.
2. Publicity and Fundraising: Ryan suggested that we apply at People's Coop program where people who bring their own bags gets a bean to put in a jar and we get a percentage of their profits. **Motion**: to have Ryan apply for this program. Passed.
3. Upcoming programs: Suggestions for tours were made. Need to pick dates and times.
4. Advocacy: Members need to express support for prairie and habitat friendly bills that come to the legislature. Ruthann will send modified Audubon "how to" Advocacy page out for review.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: TBA

R. Yaeger, sec'ty