

What: **Prairie Smoke** meeting

Where: Barb Nigon's home

When: Tuesday the 24th of August 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

Why: To discuss (per agenda distributed prior to meeting commencement)

1. Money received from TPE and account update
2. Safety Deposit Box
3. Board Members
4. Fall Meeting / Annual Picnic
5. Fall Gathering
6. Winter Gathering
7. RPL
8. Burn Packet
9. Dues
10. e-mail Addresses
11. Other

Attended: Barb Nigon – president
Chuck Kernler – vice president
Dave Edwards - treasurer
Susan Powers – secretary

Joel Dunnette – board member
Dawn Littleton – board member
Ruthann Yaeger – board member

Absent: Don Nelson – board member
Teresa Hayden – board member

~19:14 Barb called meeting to order

Treasurer's Report

Dave shared there is ~ \$11,416 in Prairie Smoke accounts with ~\$6,140 in checking. Board members moved to accept the treasurer's report.

Secretary's Report

Further corrections were not offered. Board members moved to accept the treasurer's report.

Old Business

- Money received from TPE and financial accounts update.

A check for \$4,687 was received from The Prairie Enthusiasts as Prairie Smoke's share of the TPE account(s). There were several mentions that Jack from TPE has been great to work with in this separation.

Barb reported that Dave, Ruthann, and herself have the ability to sign Bremer Bank checks. The board was informed that the bank requires a physical address to be on bank records but a P.O. Box is acceptable on checks. Therefore, Dave's address is on the reports. The checks have Prairie Smoke's P.O. box.

- Safety Deposit Box

Barb updated the names on the safety deposit box. A maximum of two keys are allowed. Forms will be forwarded to Bremer at Eastwood. Dave will need to re-sign. Barb will notarize Ruthann to use the new box.

- Board Members and elections

Election will be held at the winter meeting in February or March. We need to recruit additional board members.

- Fall Picnic / Annual Meeting

We are looking at the 4th Sunday in September to hold the fall meeting at 3:00 or 4:00 with a tour to be offered at 2:00. The date is the 27th. Prairie Smoke members will be asked to bring a dish to pass. Whitewater State Park was mentioned as an option, as that location might attract more of the Winona population. Chuck will check into facilities.

- Winter gathering

The winter gathering will be held at the Chatfield Library. Prairie Smoke will provide soup and sandwiches. Possible speakers include someone from the Minnesota Zoo regarding their work in pollination or a Spring Valley woman on her travels to Mt. Kilimanjaro.

February 7th was initially mentioned but the by-laws state March.

- Rochester Public Library

Prairie Smoke is considering co-sponsoring continued education talks at the Public Library again this coming winter. Dawn will contact Sarah Holtzer.

- Burn classes

Dave is speaking to Jaime Edwards on holding a burn class potentially in September. The location is to be determined.

- Burn Packet

The burn packet needs updating. Barb submitted some edits. Dave is checking with Jaime Edwards for needed corrections.

- Dues

The current due structure of \$25 is to remain. The suggestion is to have two renewal dates in a calendar year. Renewal dates of March 1 and September 1 is suggested, as those dates fall before the spring and fall burn seasons. Ruthann offer write-up a renewal letter.

- e-mail addresses for members

Dave will send his report of member's e-mail address to Barb per her request.

- New business

- Website

Ruthann has asked webmaster Sharon if links to useful information could be added to the Prairie Smoke website.

- Potential field trips would be to the Hayden Prairie and Whitewater's Butterfly Garden.

- Dave will look into making sure the title for the trailer is properly named.

- Missing materials

Dave reported the box of (paper) materials is missing, as are two parsnip predators. He is checking with Jaime. Barb is checking with Andrea.

Dawn made a motion to close the meeting. Chuck 2nded.

Meeting closed ~ 8:25 p.m.

The next Prairie Smoke will be scheduled as needed.