

## May 18, 2020 Prairie Smoke Meeting minutes

Attended: R. Kemmerick, C. Kernler, Dawn Littleton, E. Pfannkoch, B. Nigon, S. Powers, R. Yaeger

Agenda Items: Meeting held online.

- 1) Secretary's report: Jan 2020 minutes approved previously.
- 2) Treasurer report: Ryan met with Mark and got all the papers from him. We currently have \$13,877.82 in acct, wrote checks to Maribeth for \$219.42 for 3 yr WIX, \$100 to Chatfield library. Was one outstanding check for \$215 that came in. Took in \$1300 in deposits most from membership renewals \$200 in donations above just PS dues. Interest each month is pennies, so maybe look into a CD? Ryan will look into it in Bremer. Should keep minimum in checking so it can't be accessed by hackers, so will open Savings to shelter larger amounts. **Motion:** our balance should not be on webpage, so posted minutes will NOT include financial info. Passed.

### Old Business

1. Equipment Loans: Barb loaned out only non-burn equipment this spring. Any equipment loaned needs to be returned in a timely manner and they must sanitize it in front of a board member. Barb will research disinfectants to have a recommendation ready for possible fall burns. Practices should go out on Gmail to let everyone know about our COVID policies. Recent DNR burn restrictions were discussed.
2. Membership: Ryan stated that we had 117 members, 80 paid; lost 12 that expired in March. A little down on membership, but Ryan will monitor. Suggestion made: give some free memberships to a conference. Chuck will check to see if Winona Co-op has someplace to display info, like People's does. Pamphlet racks are available.
3. Communications:
  - a. Email: all members sent in email addresses except for 2 members who requested USPS.
  - b. Editing apps: Susan has issues with editing Word
  - c. Newsletter: Dawn is using Constant Contact for newsletter, it is going slowly. Cost may be absorbed by Dawn's business.
  - d. Website: board members are having trouble getting to new web page. Search for Prairie Smoke does not go to our new address. Do we make volunteers names available to paid members? Maribeth needs to have paid membership list to know who can see the list. If visitor clicks on Volunteer list they are directed to old Facebook page. Access to volunteer list needed, need to remove .com address.
  - e. Display board: will get printed when printers open up for business. Need to add email address to header.
  - f. T-shirts orders: No need for more now. Need to put picture of T's on web but PS will not ship. People can pick one up at events or outreach. Also, can put on web that T-shirt could be picked up if member wanted one.
4. Projects: Library Endowment - Sticker (3x4 inch) for PS books will be placed inside honoring Barb Nigon. Monica will propose design for sticker. Ed passed on a list of prairie-related books to buy. Check for them has been paid. When ready, Chatfield paper will be notified.

## **New Business**

5. All-American Co-op: Ed had mentioned that this group offered a scholarship for students pursuing Ag studies, and asked if PS should fund one for students going into natural resources and what you have to do to get one.
6. MNat scholarship: This was a one-time \$350 to honor Joel, but has not been used or applied for yet. Dawn will get names from MNat and get this done.

Non-agenda item: Board members checked in and shared what they'd been doing during the lockdown.

Meeting adjourned. Next regular board meeting in August: date/time TBA

R. Yaeger, sec'ty