

Minutes of January 7, 2017 Board Meeting & Celebration

Attended: Ryan Kemmerick, Chuck Kernler, Dawn Littleton, Barb Nigon, Susan Powers, Mark Stopyro, Jeff Summerfield, Ruthann Yaeger

Absent: Don, Nelson

Guests: Joel Dunnette, Patty Kemmerick, Brian Littleton

Agenda Items:

- 1) Meeting called to order after delicious selection of snacks and drinks, courtesy of Barb.
- 2) Secretary's report: Secretary forgot to send September report. Will send with Jan minutes.
- 3) Treasurer, re: tax form issue: Chuck said the CPA inadvertently misled PS about tax reporting requirements. CPA said PS didn't need to send in report for 3 yrs. But she did not explain that she was talking about the Federal 990-N tax report. MN requires that a 990-N tax form be sent in every year. We were late and paid a fine. Chuck sent in the form plus fee. All is forgiven now.

Old Business

1. Brochures: Ryan updated board on progress to date. Nearly ready for printing. Jeff suggested Johnson Printing. 1000 or 500 copies suggested. Glossy finish requested. Suggestions: "This brochure made with recycled paper" logo should be added, and spacing adjustments made. Ryan will send it out one last time for review. Chuck asked whether entire membership contribution was eligible for deduction as brochure implies that only amount over \$25 is eligible. 501(c)(3) designation is sufficient for full tax deduction since nothing is given in exchange for membership. Ryan will add logo and remove extraneous wording in the brochure and Barb will ask Sharon to remove it from the website.
2. Membership: Chuck asked about keeping track of interests that members check. Suggestions included Excel table or adding one Comment column, rather than individual columns.
3. Meeting and events venues: Ryan discussed Cascade Meadows/St. Mary's U.. A negotiable \$50 per hour room fee for events, meetings is charged. Barb suggested a summer event there. Barb asked again to set dates for Annual meeting. Chatfield asks only for a free will donation and will be venue this time. Cascade would cost \$150. Feb 26th was set as the date for meeting and elections with backup date of March 5th. Barb will let us know who is up for reelection.
Speakers suggested: Angie Gupta, Chris Schad, someone from the Eagle Bluff, others. Would be good to get brochures to hand out for the meeting.
New member recruiting discussed. Suggestions: members will talk to UMN extension; Megan Duffy, Stormwater coordinator; St. Mary's Winona leader; St. Mary's/Cascade leader Scott Walker, etc. Any members suggested will be contacted.

New Business

Joel was honored for his many years of service to PS, expertise in furthering PS goals, organizing and teaching. He was given a card signed by all PS board, and an annual \$275 scholarship in his name will fund a student to attend a Master Naturalist class.

Dawn suggested a small committee to organize and coordinate our social media presence (website, Facebook, etc.) to avoid sending out mixed messages. It may include non-board members who have expertise in social media issues. Names were suggested and committee will be finalized later.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting TBA

R. Yaeger, sec'ty