

MINUTES
Friends of the San Pedro River
Board of Directors Meeting
April 14, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER- at 6:00 p.m.
2. PRESENT Board Members Chris Long, Sally Rosén, John Rose, Teresa Miranda, Robert Weissler, Alan Blixt, and Dutch Nagle . BLM Representative Mark Rekshynskyj
3. MINUTES FROM MARCH MEETING: The minutes were accepted as published.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT (Chris Long for Jann Weiss)

Bookstore sales in March were strong with over \$16,000 total sales. Our estimated budget expected a negative of about \$2,500 as of March, but we are actually about \$4,000 in the black. However, much of this is grant money allocated to a specific purpose. We have been buying new inventory and Cost of Goods Sold is about 60%. It would be good to increase donations both by making sure that docents encourage walk participants to make donations and by making the donation boxes more conspicuous.
5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Chris Long)
 - a. BLM Reptile List foldout – Chris passed around a sample listing of Reptiles found on the SPRNCA. She said we will print 1000 of these for sale at San Pedro House and gave prices options for the various types of paper. It was consensus to the \$162 price for 70# stock, partially recycled content.
 - b. BLM Bird List Interim –We are almost out of the current list which BLM is planning to update. In the meantime, we have an option of printing an alternate list that will be on two sheets 8 x 14 inch sheets formatted as a booklet. It will then need volunteers to make an additional manual fold so that it will fit in a shirt pocket. The cost for 1000 will be just under \$300 dollars.
 - c. History interpretive walks have been scheduled at Murray Springs, Terrenate (May 3), Millville (June 7), and Fairbank (July 5). The first one at Murray Springs, led by **Dwight Long**, and went well with 12 participants.
 - d. There is a display case that we may order available to us in Phoenix but we don't want to buy it sight unseen. We are hoping that someone is going to Phoenix and can look at it. A photo and specifications were passed around. **Jim and Patsy Baylor** have donated \$500 toward the case, we will make up the remaining \$300.
 - e. **Vance Haynes** sent FSPR some info on Murray Springs, again offered additional fossils and artifacts. We sent a "thank you" and are coordinating when these might be available.
 - f. There is still concern about the water from the EOP running in the wash and threatening the site. **Mark Rekshynskyj** said that the issue is being addressed in the Washington, D. C. office, with the goal of getting national historic landmark status for Murray Springs. Temporary measures were discussed. The board decided to send a message to the City expressing our concern and encouraging the city to find a solution.
 - g. Trail maps for Murray Springs and Terrenate have been designed by **Dwight Long**. They will be posted on the website for now, but there are hopes of making them available in the trailhead boxes at the sites.
 - h. Chris passed around a Terrenate brochure and it was decided to revise and modify the brochure to make it less expensive to print. **Deni Seymour** (archaeologist at Terrenate) agreed to review the pamphlet.
 - i. BLM has asked the FSPR to guide walks at Murray Springs and Fairbank on April 30. **Dwight Long** has volunteered to do the Murray Springs tour and **Don Duey** will assist

with Fairbank. It would be a good thing to have FSPR members along to show support. This is a great opportunity to meet the Tucson Field Office staff.

j. There will be a “mud party” (plastering adobe walls to protect them) at Terrenate on April 21. (This was very successful. We had nine from FSPR and FSPR provided the lunch. The SV Vista Herald had a photo and story on the front page the next day.)

6. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT (BLM)

a. Mark Rekshynskyj is working on getting funding to renovate the solar system at SPH.

b. Mark addressed the “Wish List” that the friends had compiled. He said that about three-fourths of it will be accomplished with stimulus funds. Funding has been approved for upgrades to SPRNCA trails and trailheads.

c. Fund raising ideas addressed were : a contest next year for the FSPR 2011 calendar photos with an entry fee of \$5, a packet of brochures, trail maps, and videos, etc. to be the “Ultimate Guide to the SPRNCA”, a walkway with dedicated tiles or stones, an entry fee to the IMBD event.

d. Mark recommends starting an oral history project with interviews of the former residents of San Pedro House and Fairbank.

7. PROGRAM REPORTS

a. Docent Program

(1) **Chris Long** reported that the Natural History Docent Program Started on April 2nd with an updated and reformatted Docent Manual. There are 13 students. Some will need a make-up class. Because the PSAs were not printed in a timely manner (paper only prints what they have space for), several docents signed up late.

(2) Cultural History Docent Program –Chris reported that this was very successful.

b. Education Program. **John Rose** reported that the following schools have scheduled field trips: Greenway, Coronado, General Meyer, and the First Baptist Academy. He expects more as the school year winds down.

c. Equestrian Program (Nancy Doolittle) –There were 8 participants on the March ride. The new policy of members riding for free seems to be working.

d. Maintenance Program: **Ted Mouras** sent the following:

(1) The pruning demo at the SPH on April 4 by the Cochise Master Gardeners and “De” Lewis went very well and 8 of our trees and shrubs were trimmed. I expect this will be a yearly event by them and, in a couple of years, the attention will be noticeable. We had 10 attendees from the FSPR, MG, and DAR.

(2) **Lori Kovash** and Ted Mouras installed a new pond liner near the SPH and filled the pond, lined the banks with rock, transferred the fish and placed a few pond plants in the pond. Ted also reinstalled the float and turned the water back on. **Susanne Peters** cleared the area around the pond. Lori and Ted will pick up river rock to use to line the paths around the SPH, provide to **Cado Daily** for the swale, and to place around the pond.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Membership Committee **Lin Clancy** has volunteered to do the record keeping for the membership list.

b. Education Committee (John Rose). See above

c. Public Outreach: Ted Mouras sent in the following

(1) Ted is checking with Fort Huachuca on the interview segment for their cable channel. It looks like it got lost in a computer crash and will need to be completely redone. The monthly events announcements are running regularly. **Jane Chambers** has done a terrific job on these announcements.

(2) Cochise County Conservation Council- Ted Mouras met with Brooke Gebow last week and The Nature Conservancy and Sky Island Alliance are starting to draft a plan, goals, and strategy for their Cochise County Program. They will focus on wildlife habitat preservation, water, and sustainable lifestyles.

9. OLD BUSINESS

a. Trail Guide Illustrated Booklet (Ted Mouras) All but one sketch for the trail guide are complete. Ted prepared a draft layout for the guide and will start to recruit authors for the text. The guide will be 20-30 pages long.

b. 2010 Photo Calendar (**Gary Noonan**) Instructions are printed and available on the web site and at SPH. Also, Gary has made many improvements in the photo web site. It is now better organized

c. FSPR History (Gary Noonan) – Is printed, but the covers need to be redone.

d. International Migratory Bird Day/Spring Fest – May 9, 2009. The schedule is set. The poster will be modified. Both were viewed by board members.

e. Fairbank Reunion/Fairbank Day – 14 November 2009 – **Laura Mackin** has reported that the reunion participants have requested an earlier date, if possible, to ensure better weather. Laura and Dawk will check on dates and other scheduled events. We will try to accommodate if at all possible.

f. Xeriscape Report (Ted Mouras) –

(1) Ted met with **Cado Daily** and Sarah this week to discuss Cado's plans to have one of her Cooperative Extension classes build a swale for us as part of the Community Xeriscape. This should happen in the next month. He also discussed her comments on the CX booklet and once he incorporates them and has Melanie edit the text, he'll be ready to forward the material to his sister to create the booklet. He expects that the cost for creating and printing the booklet (which will be at least 25 pages long) will run at least \$2000. All of this expense will come out of the grants we have received for the CX.

(2) Sarah and her master gardeners will tidy up the CX before the Spring Festival/IMBD and will identify replacement plants.

g. Update on Point of Sales System. **Dutch Nagle** reports that all the hardware and software are in and it is just a matter of Laura determining the format of entering sales items into the program. She will not have time for that until after the IMBD. Our accountant, Pam Collins, is prepared to train volunteers in the system. It will be used first at the SPH.

h. Fundraising – Arizona License Plate for FSPR/SPRNCA. **John Rose** has spoken to state Senator Paton about the process. It requires legislation and an upfront cost of \$32,000. John will try to find out if other groups have had the fee waived. Another suggestion was to have a decorative front license plate for sale.

i. FSPR Camera Club: **Gary Noonan** reports that no progress has been made.

j. Earth Day Booth– 18 April, 2009: Dutch Nagle reports that we will share a booth with Huachuca Audubon and everything is ready to go. (This event was very successful. Lots of visitors to our booth.) **Ron Serviss** will also bring the FSPR booth to the Bisbee Farmer's Market Earth Day on 25 April.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. There will be a special walk on May 20 at Casa De San Pedro for a Leadership Group sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce through the Sierra Visitor and Convention Center – **Dutch Nagle** will lead the walk.

b. Newsletter input is due to **Jann Weiss** by the end of the month. **Alan, Dutch, John, and Chris** will all submit something.

c. **Tom Clancy** will give a history talk to a women's group at the Baptist church at SPH on May 2.

11. REVIEW 2009 FSPR ACTIVITY CALENDAR- This was reviewed by the board members

12. NEXT MEETING May 12th
13. ADJOURN 7:20