

**Friends of the San Pedro River
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes - July 14, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting started on time at 6 P>M>
2. ROLL CALL. Ted Mouras, Dutch Nagle, John Rose, Alan Blixt, Robert Weissler, Anne Graf; representing BLM Mark Rekshynskyj and Jim Mahoney
3. MINUTES FROM JUNE MEETING. Approved.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT (Jann Weiss).
 - a. Review budget charts. **Jann's** written report warns us to be careful of expenses. Salaries are slightly more than anticipated due to POS and extra work at San Pedro House.
 - b. **Jann Weiss** is resigning as Treasurer after many years of service. **Tom Arnold** has volunteered to take on those duties. (Update, **Chris** talked with him on 23 July and he is anxious to get started. He has lots of good ideas.)
 - c. Need to establish a budget plan for if/when Dept of Transportation closes the Highway 90 bridge for an extended period while it is being replaced. (Update: **Tom Arnold** will work on this as he gets into his new duties.)
5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Chris Long).
 - a. Publications.
 - (1) BLM Bird List Interim – on hold for now.
 - (2) Color Brochure – Still on hold. (Update: Both Sierra Vista and Bisbee Visitor Centers are out of these brochures. We will need to get them reprinted in August.)
 - b. Posted site host announcement on FSPR website
 - c. The Nature Conservancy feature on Wet/Dry survey is linked to our website.
6. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT (BLM).
 - a. Update on Site Host search for SPH: **Jim Mahoney** is looking at a list of sites to post announcements.
 - b. Two additional SCAs will be hired.
 - c. Statement of Work for stimulus package (trails and trailheads) is moving forward.
 - d. Southwest Wings is August 5 thru 9. **Jim Mahoney** will help get materials to the hotel. Several FSPR members have BLM Driver's Certification. This ensures that drivers of Government vehicles have a good understanding of BLM rules and driving knowledge.
 - e. **Cado Daily** is meeting with Mark on Friday July 17th. (Water Wise should take advantage of the community xeriscape. It is a public site that people can visit anytime, not just on the official tour day. Need to encourage Water Wise to take advantage of this excellent site.)
 - f. San Pedro House Issues: Potholes in entry drive, trash and fires at pond, cattle on the river.
 - g. Wilderness Camp Area. **Jim Mahoney** will write a short article for newsletter with info on the camping area. SV Tourism interested.
7. PROGRAM REPORTS.
 - a. Docent Program. Docents are drifting off. Need ideas on how to keep them interested and continuing to assist with walks, hikes, etc. Maybe some social events to create esprit de corps? Assigned mentor? Required number of hours per month? Or number of walks per month?
 - b. Education Program (**John Rose**). Two walks recently, one with 25 children and one with 50 children. **Judah Maccabee** (a recent docent graduate) always brings something for the children, most recently small backpacks. Would it be a good idea to get a similar ones to

give to students? They are inexpensive – only about \$15-\$20 per dozen. **John Rose** will prepare a proposal for this.

c. Equestrian Program (Nancy Doolittle) – Situation at Brown Canyon may improve when a site host is found, but they are short-handed now and there is no one to contact. Rides are gaining us new members. Katie Finn, contact for Las Cienegas.

d. Maintenance Program (Terri Metzger)

(1) **Terri Metzger** & Ranger Bob made a new trail for future additions to the “compost pile” farther from SPH. Nature will take its course with the current pile. Have also done some work at Fairbank to trim some trees, etc.

(2) DAR is maintaining the wildlife gardens and **Nadine Holder** has donated \$1500 to install gutters and rain barrels for San Pedro House. Jim Mahoney will get a cost estimate for us. Will need to ensure that they are “in character” with the historic building. Would also like to plant some trees, especially a replacement for the big tree (which is dying). (Update: The large limb collapsed on Sunday July 25th. It missed the little shed by about a foot.)

(3) **Ted Mouras** will work with the CCMG to identify and replace plants during summer monsoon.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

a. Membership Committee (Vacant)

(1) Gary Noonan submitted some ideas to increase membership

(2) Annual Meeting will be at Boquillas on October 17th. **Dutch** will be Point of Contact. BOD will provide hamburgers/hotdogs/veggie burgers; FSPR will provide paper plates, utensils, and sodas. Members will be asked to bring a dish to share. Teresa will coordinate car pooling.

b. Education Committee (John Rose). Nothing new to report.

c. Public Outreach (Ted Mouras)

(1) Fort Huachuca Public Access Channel. **Ted Mouras** and others went to FTH to re-tape the FSPR show. Jane Chambers is doing Monthly Events each month.

(2) “Green Initiative” Sierra Vista Tourism Commission recognition of “sustainable tourism.” Will try to influence them to expand beyond just “Green Tourism,” expanding to make Sierra Vista a “Sustainable Community.” Environmental Affairs Committee is also meeting and **Ted Mouras/Lori Kovash** are presenting some proposals for “greening” the community. Should we post the rebate info on our FSPR website?

(3) Upper San Pedro Water District. Do the local environmental groups want to endorse the Water District? District Plan will be available for review in the next few weeks. Encourage people to go to the meetings, so that the environmental community is represented.

9. OLD BUSINESS.

a. 2010 Photo Calendar (Gary Noonan). Three volunteers for photo selection needed. (Update: **John Rose, Anne Graf, and Sally Rosen** volunteered and photos are selected as of 24 July.)

b. Fairbank Reunion/Fairbank Day – 14 November 2009 – (BLM/Eddie Figueroa/FSPR for refreshments/entertainment). **Chris/Dawk/Laura/Ron** continue to work the multiple “Fairbank Days” events for this winter. (Update: have received a \$1000 donation to cover some of the entertainment expenses.)

c. Update on Point of Sales System (Dutch Nagle). **Laura Makin** has enlisted a new volunteer (check name) to do some data entry. It will be done at SPH so Laura can oversee and give direction. She is working to establish a draft database to see what level of detail is required as input to get the output required.

d. FSPR Camera Club (Gary Noonan). No action yet. Suggestion of having a one-time workshop as a test of interest.

e. Phone/computer link at Fairbank? (Dutch Nagle and BLM). We have submitted a request for BLM to change to SSVEC for telephone service. This will also allow for a higher

speed internet connection at FSH. **Mark Rekshynskyj** suggested wireless service via Verizon, but previous cost comparisons show this to be too expensive for the amount of use.

f. Children's activity Guide. **Lori Kovash** delivered a draft of the "Scavenger Hunt" to Chris 19 June for review. (Update: Chris has formatted an electronic draft for Lori on 27 July).

10. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Adopt a Highway. Mile 126.8-127.8 of Highway 90 (just west of the SPH entrance) is available. Adoption would require two cleanup days each year. **Dutch** recommends that BOD must commit to this if we really want to do it. BOD must be willing to participate and find members to also participate. Otherwise will just be a few of the same people doing all the work. Are we willing to commit to this?

b. Newsletter input due to **Jann Weiss** by 31 July. (Update: Chris will send out some "nagging" e-mails.)

c. EOP Activity. FSPR has signed a contract with city for access to recharge ponds. FSPR will use EOP tour donations to pay for gate. (Update: Gate is complete and ready for use.)

d. 2010 Halloween Hike Date. Friday 29 October 2010

e. **Dutch** is speaking to the Rotary on August 6th. Will emphasize the economic effect of nature tourism.

f. Sierra Vista Tourism use of our videos. **Mike Foster** is going to provide a CD of snippets that will make up about 5 minutes of video. This video will be split and linked to sections of the SV Tourism website, and will also be run as a complete video. The complete video will also be available on their website. The Tourism website will put on a link to our website. We should put a link to theirs also. **Mike Foster, Kay Daggett and Dutch Nagle** have already met and laid out the plan for the video and Mike is already working on it.

g. DVD program. Our River of Life has been modified to remove any nonsalable scenes and is now available for use. It has also been combined with Coati and Reptiles to form a second 3-in-1 DVD.

11. REVIEW 2009 FSPR ACTIVITY CALENDAR. **Dutch Nagle** submitted an updated list of newspaper articles.

12. NEXT MEETING August 11th.

13. ADJOURN.