

MINUTES
Friends of the San Pedro River
Board of Directors Meeting
March 10, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:00 p.m.
2. PRESENT. Board members: Chris Long, Ted Mouras, Sally Rosen, John Rose, Robert Weissler, Anne Graf, Alan Blixt, and Dutch Nagle. FSPR members: Ron Service and Gary Noonan. BLM representatives: Mark Rekshynskyj and Bob Steele. Visitor: Glenn Klinger, Forest Service.
3. MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY MEETING. The minutes accepted as published.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT. (Chris Long for Jann Weiss).
 - a. Net profit for February was down due to expenditures for new stock for the busy spring birding season. Sales in March have been good.
 - b. The cost for the insurance requirement may go up soon. BLM is checking on the new regulations.
 - c. There was a question about the amount for accounting/bookkeeping. **Chris Long** will coordinate with the Treasurer and bookkeeper on this.
5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - a. Murray Springs Walk: Jesse Ballenger offered to guide a walk at Murray Springs open only to members of FSPR. Date is to be determined based on his schedule. Vance Haynes has offered some additional artifacts and fossils for the SPH display.
 - b. Museum Store Association Conference: FSPR has joined the Museum Store Association. We thought this would allow us to send an attendee to their conference in Phoenix with no fee. However, it turns out there will be a registration fee of \$227. We would like to send **Laura Mackin**; she will pay for her gas and she has housing. This conference will provide new product sources for the bookstores. A motion was made and passed to pay for the registration fee.
 - c. Site Stewards: The State is looking for site stewards for various places in the state. **Chris** will try to contact the POC and see if we can coordinate some actions with this group.
 - d. **Mark** approved using the BLM color copier for making copies of the Docent Manual for the up-coming Docent Class.
6. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT (BLM)
 - a. Site Hosts: **Bob Steele** reported that both site hosts are leaving on April 1. Flyers advertising the openings are posted at the sites, the Tombstone Chamber of Commerce, RV parks, and various other locations. There may already be a replacement for the Fairbank site; a couple named Jack and Tina Lendell.
 - b. FSPR Bench Donation: FSPR has had someone offer to buy a bench for the SPH trails. **Mark Rekshynskyj** is concerned about having too many benches due to problems with liability, maintenance, and vandalism. He suggests that a memorial walkway might be a better way to go. This was successful at Red Rocks and their Friends group could help us with the details. He did say that if the person is really wanting to donate a bench we could go ahead and do it this one time, a cottonwood bench would be preferred. (Update as of 17 March, the couple will instead donate the funds to purchase a new display case for San Pedro House. This will be used to house the artifacts and fossils that are currently there as well as the new ones offered by Vance Haynes.)
 - c. BLM Volunteer Appreciation: Mark will arrange a cookout in the early fall. It could be a potluck with BLM supplying the meat.

d. The repairs to the broken fence at San Pedro House are awaiting the insurance claim processing.

e. Economic Stimulus Package Update: There has been no word from D.C. as to what will be approved, but two projects are possible.

(1) Ecosystems Planning with a local university.

(2) San Pedro Riparian Information Center: a project designed some time ago with an architectural firm in Tucson that would be located just west of the SPH.

f. Alan requested information for docents from BLM as to what they do on a daily basis. Bob suggested that the Ranger Log has information that Chris could send to the docents and volunteers. (Update: **Ranger Bob** forwarded the file to **Chris**. She will put informational updates in the monthly e-mail she sends our requesting volunteer hours.)

g. Murray Springs: **Mark** reported that Murray Springs has been moved up on the BLM priority list due to a letter about the water (from the EOP) flowing into Murray Springs that may be damaging artifacts. There is a hydrologist working on getting some injection pumps to get the water below the clay layers. This will also be part of the stimulus package.

h. Lehner Site: Some of the volunteers requested information on the development of the Lehner site and asked that if it will not be developed soon that we quit handing out the information sheets. The Friends will direct visitors to the developed Murray Springs site rather than the Lehner site. Development of that site is not foreseen in the near future.

7. PROGRAM REPORTS

a. Docent Program

(1) Natural History Docent Program. **Chris** reported that the Training will be on Thursdays April 2, 9, 23, and 30 (we will skip the 16th as it is the SAVE presentation evening) and Saturdays April 4, 11, and 25. **Tom Clancy** coordinated with all the speakers, so the curriculum is set. **Chris** is working to revise the Docent Manual in time for the class. We have eight tentative names so far.

(2) Cultural History Docent Program: **Ron Serviss** reported that the second week of training went well. Richard, Dwight, Anne, and Mona are all ready to do walks. Jesse and Vance are soon to do a Murray Springs walk. There is already a person interested in the second Cultural History training program. The date of that training has not yet been determined.

b. Education Program: **John Rose** reported that:

(1) **Pat and Cat** successfully helped do a field trip with 60 sixth graders.

(2) There is a Boy Scout troop of 20 eight-ten year olds that would like to do a service project at San Pedro House on April 11 or 25. **Bob Steele** will arrange to have a clean-up project for them.

(3) On April 17-a class from the First Baptist Academy in period costume at Fairbank, the teacher has the curriculum. **Dawk** will be at Fairbank to talk with them.

(4) There is a Terrenate education curriculum available on the BLM website http://www.blm.gov/education/00_resources/articles/science_in_process/index.html

(5) Ramsey Canyon Summer Camp will spend one day at SPH. **Ginny Bealer** will coordinate this with the Nature Conservancy.

c. Equestrian Program. **Nancy Doolittle** sent a report that she had 23 riders on the recent Fairbank North ride. The program is using the new policy of not charging riders who belong to FSPR and allowing non-members to join on their first ride. The April ride will be Fairbank South. There was a very nice article on the Equestrian Program in the newspaper several weekends ago.

d. Maintenance Program. The Daughters of the American Revolution chapter has been doing maintenance around SPH and would like to put up a sign showing that they have adopted the wildlife landscape there. They must put the request in writing to Jim Mahoney. They are now doing some work around the paths behind the house and are putting a new liner in the little pond among the trees back there.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Membership Committee –**Dutch Nagle** has volunteered to do the record keeping; **Mark** suggested using a program called “Vologistics.”

- b. Education Committee. See above
- c. Public Outreach.-**Ted Mouras** reported that:
 - (1) Coordination with Fort Huachuca -members of the board taped a program. It and April ads are available to the public access channel.
 - (2) Cochise County Conservation Council.-The focus is on the wildlife habitat and corridors, sustainable growth, and water issues. They are slowly moving forward.
 - (3) **Lori Kovash** is going to the Sustainability Conference.
 - (4) Holly Richter is working on forming a San Pedro River Alliance to bring together all the groups that cooperate in the Wet/Dry Survey (to include the Nature Conservancy)
 - (5) It was suggested that our series of DVDs be available for viewing at the Convention Center for visitors. **Dutch and Laura** will follow up on this.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Trail Guide Illustrated Booklet. **Ted Mouras** reported that the sketches are nearly done. The text will be done after the community xeriscape brochure is done. He will be looking for writers.
- b. 2010 Photo Calendar.-**Gary Noonan** reported that **Frank Baker** and **John Langholff** are working on this. Submission of photos is being opened to the general public. It would be a good project for the high school photo club. The calendar should be a source of publicity for the SPRNCA in addition to raising funds.
- c. FSPR History.-**Gary** reported that the history is at the printer and a decision needed to be made as to the style of booklet. He offered three choices. After discussion, the motion was made to go with the third style at a cost of \$750 for 70 copies. Motion passed. **Gary** will distribute 30 of the seventy copies and the rest will be sold in the bookstore. Setting the price will be left up to **Laura**.
- d. International Migratory Bird Day – May 9, 2009.-It was reported that donkey and carriage rides will not be available from the usual resources. Replacements are being sought. **Anne** has offered to bring her Harris Hawks.
- e. Fairbank Reunion/Fairbank Day – 14 November 2009. Plans are in the works
- f. Xeriscape Report-**Ted Mouras** reported that:
 - (1) the drip system has been started up and it works.
 - (2) the brochure will be finished next month; the cost will be \$1500 (covered by a grant).
 - (3) Cochise County Master Gardeners will do a pruning demo at SPH April 4th at San Pedro House.
 - (4) Some plant replacement will take place later in the Spring
- g. Update on Point of Sales System.-**Dutch and Chris** reported that the hardware has been purchased. The software, from Intuit, will be purchased in April. The idea of multi-store software has been dropped in favor of two stand-alone systems. There will be separate monthly reports.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Cave Creek Friends Group. **Glenn Klinger** of the Forest Service in Portal attended the meeting to observe as there is interest in forming a Friends group for Cave Creek. **Mark and Chris** will send additional information to him.
- b. Fundraising. Arizona License Plate for FSPR/SPRNCA: The process is not known. Mark said that in Nevada the requirement was to have 1000 signatures on a petition. **John Rose** will research the matter. (Update: It appears there may be a significant start-up cost. John is continuing the research.)
- c. FSPR Camera Club. -**Gary Noonan** reported that there is interest in forming a Friends of the San Pedro River Camera Club open to our members as well as Buena and Cochise College Students, and other local photographers. It was the consensus of the board that this could be done and Gary should be the first president of the group. They will start meeting in the BLM meeting room as long 80% of the activity is dedicated to the SPRNCA.
- d. Earth Day Booth.-**Dutch** has this handled for 18 April, 2009. **Ron** suggested we have a booth at the Bisbee celebration as well. He will coordinate with Laura on handouts, etc.

e. FSPR volunteer pot luck can be combined with the BLM Volunteer Appreciation (see above).

11. REVIEW 2009 FSPR ACTIVITY CALENDAR

12. NEXT MEETING APRIL 14TH

13. ADJOURN at 8 PM.