

Southwest Forest Service Amigos

Minutes of the Board Meeting

March 13, 2024

Those in attendance:

Randy Daniels
Cyndie Hogg
Emily Irwin

Mike Arias
Pat Jackson

Sandra Roberts
Carolyn Aragon

Via Zoom

Virginia Wistrand

Church Hagerdon

Jan Polasky

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Introductions:

Introductions were made all around and new members were welcomed.

Minutes:

Emily Irwin made a motion that the December 13, 2023 minutes be approved. Chuck Hagerdon seconded. All approved.

Fiscal Update:

Randy Daniels gave the report on the fiscal state of the Amigos. As of 03/14/2024 \$535.00 in dues has been collected for a total of about \$2,000 in dues for 2024, compared to around \$3,000 collected by 03/13/2023. We had a good response mailing out postcards as dues reminders. The overall total in the bank account is almost \$8,000.

Jan Polasky questioned whether there is a lifetime membership available and the response is that there is a \$250 lifetime membership and it is noted in the newsletter. Cyndie will have this information added to the website.

There was a discussion regarding honorariums. Cyndie explained that the honorariums are as follows:

\$200 Treasurer

\$400 Wagonmaster and the deputy wagonmaster (split between them)

\$200 Newsletter

\$100 Secretary

Anyone who so chooses may donate their honorarium back to the Amigos.

Cyndie Hogg made a motion to approve the fiscal report. Emily Irwin seconded the motion. All approved. Randy will mail Chuck's check.

FS Amigos Website:

Per Cyndie, the name and email address of the editor, Sandra Roberts, will be updated on the website. Joel was asked to do the updating. The events will also be updated.

Google Drive:

Everyone on the board can access Google Drive. Cyndie will send out another email regarding the use of Google Drive. Per Virginia, the final minutes will be posted and shared on Google Drive for everyone's viewing.

PENDING ITEMS:

Postcards Membership:

This is working well.

Amigos Hard Copy Documents:

Carolyn Aragon has been storing several boxes of documents at her home and would like something done with them. Emily suggested scanning anything of importance. Chuck mentioned that he has some boxes also, containing documents and photos that may be historically important enough to save. Instead of scanning the documents, it was decided that the boxes would be looked through to weed out what is important and what is not and then to consolidate the boxes. Jan and her husband will be visiting the National Forest Service Museum in Montana in August and has offered to take the boxes there for the curators there to determine what to keep. It was agreed that the boxes would be "gone through" and delivered to Jan at the picnic in July so that she can transport them to Montana.

Carolyn will contact Sandra Lopez at the RO to see if there is any interest in the plastic display cases. If there is no interest she will donate.

Quemado Lake Roundup:

Chuck is scheduling and coordinating with the Quemado RD. We will have the upper two group units in Pinon CG, and group tents will be set by Monday.

Chuck stated he will start after noon on the Saturday before. The Gila National Forest leadership team will join the roundup on Wednesday night. There is no final agenda set as of yet but Chuck will send out a preliminary agenda.

A discussion followed questioning whether to charge for the main meal courses; the menu will be a different theme each evening. Chuck stated that he will track his expenses. He has asked for updated information on the number of attendees by no later than mid-April. Emily will post about the roundup in the next newsletter asking for attendees to RSVP to Chuck. There will be an email sent out to all members regarding the roundup with an information sheet attached. This will be done no later than the fourth week of April. Randy has agreed to do Taco Tuesday again.

TRANSITION STATUS:

Lunches:

Cyndie and Peggy will meet next week (week of March 17) about contacting people regarding luncheon attendance. Peggy will make reservations at Weck's.

Picnic:

Randy and Dan are in charge of the July picnic. Who will bring what to the potluck will be decided at the June board meeting. Peggy may or may not want to be involved. There was discussion regarding keeping the potluck as is and not dividing it into who brings what. Dan Winner will make the and pay for the reservations.

Post Office Box:

Chuck mentioned that the post office is charging \$1.63+ for returned newsletters if we accept them as returned. There was discussion as to whether or not we should pay to have the newsletters back so that returned addresses can be checked and corrected. There are about one-half dozen returned every quarter. The consensus was that we should refuse to pick them up. Cyndie stated that Mike has five bad email addresses to check on. The postcard mailing went well.

Newsletter:

The April 2024 newsletter will have an updated membership directory. She would like an email with the snail mail addresses also forwarded to her. Please forward any changes to Sandra no later than March 21st. The print date is April 1-3.

TRANSITION:

The transition of Pat Jackson's duties to ensure the newsletter is sent out timely was discussed and clarified. Remaining transition items have been addressed, updating bank accounts and PO Box access. Individuals taking on new roles or responsibilities had no pressing questions.

The April 2024 newsletter will have an updated membership directory. Sandra would like an email with the snail mail addresses also forwarded to her. Please forward any changes to Sandra no later than March 21st. The print date is April 1-3.

NEW ITEMS:

National Museum:

Region 3 Amigos will donate enough, but not more than \$800, for the \$1905 "club". Jan motioned for approval of this amount. Cyndie seconded that motion. All approved.

Welcome Letter:

Emily brought up a discussion regarding sending welcome letters to new members. She will draft a letter and it will be discussed at the June meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION:

Per Jan, the Tonto NF deputy forest supervisor, Erica Luna-Freed, has asked if they could attend the October SW Amigos meeting in order to gather information about the group. Emily will call Erica to discuss more involvement by the Tonto.

The Northern Arizona group will be meeting at Dead Horse Park in Cottonwood, AZ. Karen Malis-Clark will be giving the Amigos updates regarding that meeting.