

Friends of South Slough Reserve, Inc.

*P. O. Box 5446
Charleston, Oregon 97420*

After a lunch at the SS Interpretive Center that was provided by members of FOSS on February 20, 2010, with music by Jim and Jo Hockenhull (with an appearance by FOSS store manager Dave Lunde on spoons), and a presentation by guest speaker Dawn Rasmussen, the Annual Meeting was called to order at 2:50 p.m. Due to President Suzen Brawnlyn's absence, Mike Graybill opened the meeting. Board and committee members Sue Cameron, Valerie Cooley, Dave Lunde, Pat McKillip, Deborah Rudd and Laura Mays attended.

VISITORS: The many visitors included Karen Brown, Lois Christensen, Lonnie Mays, Heather Randolph, Nina Gee, Harriett Egy, Rich and Jody Hamel, Steve Larsen and Tyler Pedersen.

FRIEND/VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Mike announced the Friend of the Year, Laura Mays, and the Volunteer of the Year, Lois Christensen. Each was awarded a framed certificate of appreciation and a gift coupon for the FOSS store.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Laura Mays gave an overview for 2009, which included FOSS income and expenses, accounted for by the gift store, various grants, and projects such as Explore Your Estuary, Estuary Live! and the North Creek bridge. She reported a healthy state of financial affairs for FOSS at year's end. Mike thanked Laura and Valerie for their hard work, with special recognition to the auditor Vena McCoy, and to Norma Van Natta, who with her previous experience as Treasurer provided advice and help to the financial committee.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Sue Cameron presented a brief overview of the duties of the FOSS membership committee, which included handling new and renewed memberships, composing thank you letters, learning software programs and expanding the membership pool.

GIFT STORE COMMITTEE: Store Manager Dave Lunde showed samples of items new to the store in 2009, including tote bags with the SS logo on them, and cards printed from the winning pictures of the Poster Art contest. He cited a \$5000 profit for the year from sales in the store.

WORK PLAN: Mike detailed the many proposed activities and duties for the 2010 work plan for the FOSS board. Among them he mentioned the aquarium project for the I.C., the canoe and float house projects, an investigation into the possibility of developing an Artist/Writer in Residence Program, and the continuation of FOSS involvement with local fairs and festivals.

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BY-LAWS: Mike reviewed several proposed amendments to the FOSS by-laws: that a Historian/Archivist position be established on the board, that the bookkeeper will draft but not sign checks, and may be but is not required to be a board member, and that the bookstore manager, whose duties are defined in the by-laws, must be a board member. A motion was made and passed to so amend the by-laws. Rich Hamel offered to post the amended by-laws on the FOSS website.

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Candidates nominated to the board were Karen Brown, Lois Christensen, Nicole Jackson, Lonnie Mays, Heather Randolph and Tom Younker. A motion was made and passed to elect them to the board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mike listed his highlights of 2009 and his expectations for 2010. Among the highlights of the year he included the 35th Anniversary of the South Slough, the restoration of native oysters and the study of invasive snails in the slough, solar panels installed in the I.C. roof, the many events held for school groups, and the opportunity to experiment with paddling big canoes in the slough.

Expectations for 2010 included the FOSS Floats Project, which involves possibilities for the float-house, canoes and a floating platform, the shift of administrative offices from the I. C. to Charleston, grants proposed to study the effects of climate change on small local areas such as golf courses and RV sites, the development of curriculum for K-12 to raise awareness of the watersheds, a new well to generate electricity by sunlight to replace the electric pump in the I. C., and a grant proposal to bring Science on a Sphere, developed by NOAA, to the Coos Bay area.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The FOSS board officers will be nominated and elected during the March meeting.

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

The next FOSS board meeting will be on Tuesday March 23rd at 5:00 at the Interpretive Center.