

# *Friends of South Slough Reserve, Inc.*

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

President Suzan Brawnlyn being temporarily delayed, Member Ex-Officio Mike Graybill called the FOSS board meeting to order on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 in the SS Interpretive Center. Dave Lunde (Store Manager), Sue Cameron (Memberships) Deborah Rudd (Public Involvement Coordinator), Laura Mays (Finance Committee), Pat McKillip (Secretary) attended.

VISITORS: Nicole Jackson, Harriett Egy, Steve Larsen, Karen Brown, Heather Randolph, Lonnie Mays

CONSENT AGENDA: A work plan and a budget for the FOSS Annual meeting were added for discussion to the agenda.

President Suzan Brawnlyn joined the meeting via speakerphone from Alaska at this point, and Mike ceded the chair to her.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. A later correction, suggested by Deborah Rudd, amended "New board members will be nominated at the FOSS meeting, and formally elected at the March meeting" to read: "Board members will be nominated at the January FOSS board meeting and formally elected at the Annual Meeting in February. Officers will be elected by the Board of Directors at the March FOSS meeting."

## TREASURER'S REPORT/ FINANCE COMMITTEE

FINANCIALS: Valerie Cooley (Treasurer) being absent, Laura Mays went over the Profit and Loss sheet completed for January through December 2009, and the balance sheet for December. She explained on-going problems with the pesky vendor's discount, which must be adjusted to accurately reflect the accounts. Mike suggested that the heading "Grants, Unrestricted" be broken down and divided among specific grants to show exactly what's been spent under which grant. He also made a motion to delay consent of the 2009 Profit and Loss sheet until Laura has reconciled the vendor's discounts of 2008 to take them forward into 2009. The motion was approved. At a visitor's query, Dave explained the vendor's discount and the problems it was causing for the Finance Committee.

AUDIT REPORT, PART DEUX: Laura also reiterated that according to by-law, duties must be clearly divided between the Treasurer and the Bookkeeper, and that the Treasurer signs checks; the Bookkeeper does not.

BOOKSTORE COMMITTEE: Dave thanked all those who had helped him with the store's January inventory. He has picked up an assortment of caps with the Slough Logo on them from Gibson Graphics, and spent \$461 on new books. The children's poster art contest gift cards are almost ready to be picked up from Wegferd's.

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**PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:** Deborah cited several recent large donations to the South Slough. She reminded the board that such donations should be acknowledged with a personal “thank you” note signed by the President and/or board members.

## **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT:** Deborah said that since the announcement date for the National Environmental Education Fund’s capacity grants for \$1000 apiece has passed, she assumes that the South Slough was not awarded a grant.

**CANOES AND FLOAT HOUSE:** Mike talked about plans to restore the canoe that FOSS bought for \$10.00 and about previous boat restoration projects, which brought in substantial sums of money to the SS when the finished boats were raffled. He and Dave will be on the “Rebuild the Old Beat-up Canoe” committee; they will welcome other volunteers. Mike also suggested that FOSS let Jim Berg, who is involved with the boat-building project in Empire, know about the Large Canoe project, which might generate interest, supplies and volunteer workers. A prospective date was set for a field trip to view the float house for sale at Lakeside. Mike asked anyone who would like to be on that committee to let him know.

**CTCF GRANT:** Deborah said that the Coquille Tribal Community Fund’s \$11,000 grant for the aquarium needs a board signature by February 25 since the contact person listed on the grant paperwork, Tom Gaskill, is not on the board. Mike offered to go to the awards ceremony on the 25<sup>th</sup>, and suggested that Rich Hamel, who worked hard on the grant proposal, be invited to come as well.

## **ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE:**

**NOMINATIONS:** Deborah requested suggestions, corrections, etc. for the revised by-laws, which need to be finalized before the Annual Meeting. She clarified the member election process. The following were nominated as prospective members: Karen Brown, Heather Randolph, Sue Cameron, Lois Christensen, Valerie Cooley, Nicole Jackson, Dave Lunde, Laura Mays, Lonnie Mays, Pat McKillip, Tom Younker. The motion was made and passed to accept the slate of nominees. Members will be formally voted on during the Annual Meeting. Officers will be nominated and elected at the following meeting in March.

**MEMBER BIOS:** Karen suggested that the potential members submit brief bios as introductions to the board president, who will be present in person instead of in voice only at the Annual Meeting.

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**BY-LAWS:** A discussion of by-laws will be ongoing via e-mail to revise and finalize. A committee to oversee the board work plan proposed for 2010, including activities, projects and a budget, was formed. Mike observed that according to the by-laws the President, Secretary and the Treasurer most also oversee the proposed budget. Mike, Laura and Tom Gaskill will also be part of the committee. A motion was made to vote Valerie to chair the committee. The motion passed despite the President's objection to nominating a member in absentia.

**FOOD:** Deborah reminded the board of the lunch menu for the Annual Meeting: soups, bread, other potluck dishes such as salads and desserts, to be brought by the attending members. She also reiterated the budget for the musician and the guest speaker.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**OLD GRANTS:** Mike made a motion to authorize Tom Gaskill to get the "Explore Your Estuary" artwork framed for up to \$200. The motion passed. Further discussion for ways to use the original artwork, as posters or cards for the gift store, was shelved until after the Annual Meeting.

**LICENSING AND COMPUTER STUFF FOR LAURA:** Laura requested a replacement for a missing disk for Quikbooks'07 so that she could work on the books at home. Heather volunteered to look for a copy of the program for a good price on-line.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**PADDLE MAPS:** Joe Tally requested to be allowed to pursue the project for making and selling laminated maps of the South Slough for canoers and kayakers. Mike suggested 25 maps should be authorized, at \$2.25 apiece. The motion to authorize Joy to complete the project passed.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mike covered many topics, among them NOAA's budget for 2010, the South Slough Management Commissions' approval to move the SS offices to OIMB, and a possible increase in the SS's operating budget. The management (SWAMP) budget will cover operations in SNERR's weather, water and science monitoring. The Federal budget will spend \$50,000 in each of 13 NERR sites to begin monitoring marshes and eelgrass; the South Slough is in a good position to be granted the bio-monitoring funds. Money might also be available for the K-12 Estuary Education Program, with \$13,000 available per NERR site to assess analysis of what teachers might need to further estuary education. A new grant person is working on Bay Watershed Education and Training, (B-WET) helping to coordinate coastal education in Southern Oregon, finding good places for visitors to go for information about the coast. The SS

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might also receive \$30,000 to host a meeting of people from various states involved in coastline training and education.

The \$100,000 grant for the invasive snail project is closing down; the finishing paper is being written on the tiny, non-native snail that we now know takes up residence everywhere in the bay. The American Institute of Architects has asked Mike to join a steering committee to study how a community can successfully maintain itself and its interests without compromising local biology. Mike is also part of the Coos Bay managing committee to study an area around Cape Arago that might appropriately be designated a no-fishing marine reserve area. He hears many local views on that subject. Steve Rumrill is in Eureka, meeting with a California group also discussing Marine Life Protective Areas.

The Coastal and Estuary Land Protection Act (CELP) makes provisions to protect key coastal areas. To that end, the SS is trying to buy property along Wasson Creek, and continues to implement forest management plans which might bring in revenue for non-logged forests under Cap and Trade.

The visitors having no further questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting at the Interpretive Center on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by Patricia McKillip, FOSS Secretary