

Friends of the Holland Sand Prairie  
March 16, 2009

Present: Pete & Barb Putnam, Jay & Diane Fernholz, Jessica Bolwahn, Phil Yehle, Robert Leum, Judy & Gerry Peterson, Brian Gray, Marilyn Pedretti, George Varnum, Ron Sunne and Larry Bennett

## **MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Pete Putnam.

### Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of October 13, 2008 by Jay Fernholz, seconded by Judy Peterson. Unanimously approved.

### Treasurer's Report

Brian Gray reported that FHSP's account with the Holmen Area Foundation ended Aug 2008 with \$2196.73 and closed Feb 2009 with approximately \$2219 (February's interest estimated). Account activity during this period consisted of interest payments only (approximately \$26). We ended 2008 with \$2212.44 in our HAF account. Motion by Diane Fernholz, seconded by Jessica Bolwahn, to approve Treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.

### What's new on the Prairie?

Pete Putnam reported the HSP now has an official address: W7781. He also spotted some large holes (maybe badger?). Jay Fernholz reported a pair of blue birds are nesting in #4 and he has seen killdeer.

### Brush Pile

Pete Putnam has talked with Doug at the Holmen Fire Department and has received permission for a 4-day burning permit. Jessica Bolwahn suggested the burn occur after a rain or early morning. Burn scheduled for 8:00 a.m. March 27 with the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> as back-up dates. Putnam, Varnum and Pedretti volunteered, more volunteers are welcome.

### Pine Plantation

Jay Fernholz has contacted a forester who will compile a letter for people who may have an interest in bidding the project. He proposed saving some of the white pine. Much discussion followed. Motion by Jay Fernholz, seconded by Barb Putnam, to save several white pine in the southeast corner of the square plantation, not to exceed 3. Yeas: 10, Nos 2.

### Kiosk

Pete Putnam presented a plan of a kiosk that is used in the Rocky Mountain National Park. He provided members with a cost estimate from two suppliers with quotes for cedar and treated lumber. Discussion took place on whether to use concrete or not in the foundation. Pete Putnam also provided a cost estimate of the bulletin board. Estimated

total cost of the project was around \$1,000. Motion by Marilyn Pedretti, seconded by George Varnum, to approve this style kiosk. Motion carried unanimously.

Phil Yehle asked if the bulletin board had a glass cover. Pete Putnam reported that it would be plexi-glass. Jay Fernholz reported he has tagged three tall straight black locust that they will cut and hew for supporting beams in the kiosk.

#### MVC Annual Meeting

Jay Fernholz reported that he and five other members attended the event on November 13<sup>th</sup> at which a donated print was auctioned. After a short discussion, it was the consensus of the group to put a minimum bid on this item in the future.

#### Yes! Holmen

Jay Fernholz reported the event went well and five other members assisted throughout the day. Bob Leum was the guest of honor with his recently released duck stamp receiving positive press. They gave two hats for door prizes which assisted in bringing people to the booth.

#### MVC Report

Jessica Bolwahn noted the black locust won't need attention until July. She displayed some photos taken from 2004-2008 showing the progress of the black locust clean-up progress. They are working on burn plans for the spring.

#### Brochure Update

The brochure copies are running low and Pete Putnam hopes to get copying donated again. Changes/updates include: add address, change the fire picture to one of the HSP burns, change the bird picture to a blue bird, add Town Hall phone number "for information".

#### Prints

After much discussion, it was determined to leave the price of the print as is and continue to display at local businesses.

Next regular FHSP meeting May 11, 2009.

Motion by Diane Fernholz, seconded by Gerry Peterson, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes submitted by,  
Marilyn Pedretti