Draft 8 /18/2022

Key: Board Action

Individual Commitment

SAWTOOTH INTERPRETIVE & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting

Redfish Center

August 18, 2022

**Participants**

Officers: President – Stewart Wilder, Vice-president Terry Clark, Treasurer Liesl

Schernthanner, Secretary Ed Waldapfel

Directors: Becky Obletz, Jenny MacNichol, Amy Jones, Bernie Hartz,

Business Manager: Erica Cole

Executive Director: Lin Gray

Forest Service Liaison: Bobbi Filbert – SNRA Deputy Area Ranger

Lead Naturalist: Bryce Johnston

Museum Docent: Megan Nelson

Guests: Dave Pinney, Hannah Fake

Present, via Zoom or dial-in: Directors Roland Miller, Paul Hill

Forest Service Liaison – Kathy Atchley – C/T NF

Meeting called to order at 10:04 a.m. by President Wilder. Roll call of participants conducted.

The motion to accept today’s Consent Agenda (Attachment #1) and 2/17/2022 Board Meeting notes was made by Gary Gadwa and seconded by Paul Hill. Motion passed unanimously.

**UPDATES AND REPORTS**

**President’s Report**

* Stewart Wilder
  + Expressed his appreciation for all the staff reports
  + Good to be back together, face-to-face
  + Stated his appreciation for the good leadership that is taking thus far this year – things are going well
  + Website is up and running well
    - Gary asked if the webcam was functioning properly on the website
      * Lin – has received no reports to the contrary
      * Erica stated that Lin should be the #1 face of the website
      * Stewart asked that everyone review and update their biographical information that is on the website – send updated information to Lin
  + Welcomed Ken and Bernie Hartz back to the Valley

**Forest Service Liaison**

* **Caribou/Targhee National Forest**
  + Kathy Atchley
    - All District offices are now open and doing fine
    - Expressed her appreciation to Erica for keeping the sales outlets supplied
* **Sawtooth National Recreation Area**
  + Bobbi Filbert
    - A few fires going on and as a result there are some area closures in effect
      * Alpine Lake Fire
        + Very remote
        + 61 acres 5% contained
        + Conducting Infrared flights over the fire area every night
        + 2 hotshot crews, engine and helicopter crews
        + Full suppression mode
      * Fire on the Fairfield Ranger District – Ross Fork Fire – burning towards Smiley Creek – very remote
        + Inaccessible
        + 400 acres
        + Being managed to reduce exposure and risk
      * Facebook is a good source for current information on these fires
    - A lot of activity going on with regards to the 50th anniversary celebration of the establishment of the SNRA
      * Bus tours, facilitated discussions, Idaho Governor is expected to issue a proclamation recognizing the 50th anniversary
    - Stanley-Redfish Trail
      * New contractor is now on board
        + Will start work after Labor Day and work through October/November depending on weather
    - Closures on the Salmon River are now in effect with regarding to salmon spawning
    - RV Dump Station at the Stanley Ranger Station is now closed due to construction work
    - No contractor for the Redfish Lake Phase III project, so this project has been delayed
    - Redfish Internal Trails Project – expecting a decision this fall
    - Been conducting public meetings with regards to Outfitters and Guides project – draft EIS is out for comment
      * The purpose is to develop a unit-wide, land-based outfitter and guides management plan as a means to streamline the processing of outfitter and guide proposals and provide consistent administration of outfitter and guide permits.
        + Here is a link for further information: project website Forest Service (usda.gov)
    - Gathering visitor information in the Redfish area again this fall
    - Liesl asked about the cause of the two fires
      * Bobbi – under investigation – Ross Fork Fire was lightning caused
    - Amy asked about the junky, wrecked trailer alongside the highway north of Beaver Creek and the boat storage at Cabin Creek
      * Bobbi – not sure of the details but will make a note of this and follow up
        + Not use of the land ownership ship regarding the Cabin Creek question – will check that out
    - Paul asked about the status of the potential subdividing of property at Beaver Creek store area
      * Bobbi – there is an easement for this property, Forest Service is working with the group property owners – they would like to subdivide in order to build nine cabins
        + No plans have come in yet, still just in conversation mode – the owners are working with us, we are going through the process
      * Stewart mentioned that he has been in contact with Area Ranger Flannigan on this issue
        + Bobbi – Forest Service will make sure whatever happens here is in compliance with the Law as a lot of money has already been invested with the easement on this property
        + We have a good relationship with Blaine County and are working with them on this issue
    - Paul asked about the status of AT & T’s wanting to go forward with a cell phone tower on state property at the fish hatchery
      * Bobbi – urged people who have an interest in what is taking place here to write letters to show opposition to what might take place here
      * Stewart stated that Idaho Conservation League is leading the charge on this issue
      * Paul said that the Forest Service should write a letter to the state showing that this is not in compliance with the law establishing the SNRA
        + Bobbi – the Forest Service will respond once a formal proposal comes in

**Finance**

* See Attachment #2
  + Lisle Schernthanner
    - Sales have not been as hoped, but we are still okay
      * Megan mentioned that she has talked with other businesses in the area, and they are also down from last year
      * Bernie said local businesses are saying they are down 19-20% this year
    - Terry stated that the Forest Service has a new contact for RAC
      * Lin said we are not sure who that is, Bobbi is trying to make an initial contact with that person
    - Motion made by my Jones to accept the financial report as presented. Seconded by Bernie Hartz. Motion passes unanimously.
    - Gary asked if SIHA is focusing on the 50th anniversary of SIHA as well as the SNRA 50th
      * Lin – lately we have been focusing on the SNRA 50th but may do something in November with regards to the SIHA 50th

**Membership Update**

* See Attachment #3
  + Caitlin Straubinger
    - Will be working with Lin and Liesl to iron out any differences in numbers

**Outlets Update**

* Erica Cole
  + As new products come in, they are being immediately distributed to sales outlets
  + Erica displayed the new SNRA ball caps
  + Medallions, aluminum water bottles and magnets are coming in tomorrow – that have the 50th anniversary info – will be distributed to sales outlets
  + Been slow getting in plush toys – they just arrived
  + If anyone has any ideas for new sales products, please contact Erica
  + We are going towards more custom products
    - Lin – we are doing this because the profit margin is much better for SIHA
  + Gary asked how the Mountain Village sales outlet was doing
    - Erica – January-July was down about $1350 compared to last year, however it appears that July may be up +$200 over last year
    - Liesl stated that the display at Mountain Village looks good everyday that she has been there
    - Erica mentioned that at Mountain Village SIHA cannot sell certain items, like hats and water bottles, as they compete with products that Mountain Village sells
    - Liesl asked if SIHA will have a table to sell products at the Community Park
      * Lin – no plans to do this
    - Erica stated that SIH would like to create and make our own postcards – much better profit margin

**Redfish Update**

* See Attachment #4
  + Bryce Johnston
    - ½ of the naturalist crew will be leaving this weekend to return to school
    - The boardwalk trail at the visitor center is only partially open due to a collapse of one of the sections
      * People can still access the trail from both ends, but cannot go all the way through
      * Good time to visit, a lot of kokanee salmon spawning in the creek
      * Jenny mentioned that there is a large number of kokanee Redfish Lake where Fishhook Creek enters the Lake
      * Gary suggested that Ed Waldapfel look at the damaged section to see if he could repair it like the repairs, he made last year
        + Lin said that SIHA staff are working with the SNRA to see what can be done
      * Bernie reminded the group that this boardwalk trail is a nationally recognized trail and has been “bandaided” dozens of times in the past to make it safe and accessible – nature hasn’t been kind to this trail over the years
        + Need to push the status of this trail with “whoever”
        + Liesl suggested that maybe something can be done with through the Redfish Phase III Project

Lin said, not sure, but maybe with the Redfish Internal Trails Project, maybe with Idaho State Department of Parks and Recreation

Bernie stated that Eric McQuay has a design for this trail with some changes

* + - * Ed Waldapfel mentioned that he had stopped at the Frank and Bethine Overlook at Galena Summit on his way to the meeting today and was very impressed with the condition of the overlook
        + SNRA has replaced all the missing and damage interpretive signs, painted the rails, installed a viewing scope
        + Overlook is “top notch” and just in time for the 50th SNRA anniversary events
        + Kudos to the SNRA – great job, well done
        + Liesl inquired as to whether or not SIHA naturalists still went to this site

Lin – yes – on Saturdays

**Preservation Committee Update**

* No update
  + Terry – oral interview that he and Stacey were scheduled to conduct with Frank Rowland has been postponed due to illness in Frank’s family – will be rescheduled

**Museum Update**

* See Attachment #5
* Megan Nelson
  + Down about $5-600 in sales
  + Number of visitors is down
  + Saturday will be Cameron’s last day
    - Could use some volunteers to staff the Museum
  + Megan will be here until the end of September, maybe part of October
  + A lot of projects that need to be done in September
    - Upstairs needs to be reworked due to the reroofing project
  + Working on replacing warped photos
  + History Day this year was the most well attended ever
    - 150 people, the most activities, most demonstrations
    - Thanks to Doug and Beck Obletz for their help and involvement
  + Paul asked if all the repairs to the Museum had been done
    - Lin – not sure – the roof project is done – we still need to do some painting, etc., this fall

**Executive Committee Update**

* Terry Clark
  + Board vacancies
    - Terry asked potential Board candidate Dave Pinney to provide an introduction of himself to the Board
    - Dave was asked to leave the room while the Board discussed accepting him as a new Board member
    - Paul asked if we are giving potential Board members information on what SIHA does, what is expected of Board members, etc.
      * Liesl – yes – we have a packet of information that includes this kind of information
      * Gary – we used to have a notebook that we gave out to potential Board members
        + Gary endorsed Dave for a position on the Board – “a great candidate”
      * Amy – it would be good to send out the resume of potential Board members to the Board in advance of discussions and voting
      * Stewart – we need to formalize this process
        + Liesl stated that we have a process, we just need to follow it
    - Motion made by Terry Clark and seconded by Jenny MacNichols to accept Dave Pinney on the Board with a three-year appointment. Motion passed unanimously.
    - Dave returned to the room was offered and accepted as the newest SIHA Board member
  + According to Terry there is still remaining one vacancy on the Board
    - Drs David and Susan Kim are on the list of potential Board members
      * Stewart and Terry will approach the Kim’s to determine their interest in becoming Board members
    - Both Paul and Amy said that SIHA needs to get some candidates from the Wood River Valley
    - Jenny stated that Sue Orb is on the short list
  + Terry and Liesl said that there needs to be a Board Vacancy Committee meeting soon
  + Liesl encouraged Dave to visit the Redfish Center and Museum to observe the naturalists and what they do

**Executive Director’s Report**

* See Attachment #6
  + Lin Gray
    - Stated that Bryce and Megan are doing a great job this season at the Redfish Center and Museum
    - Erica was recognized for doing very well keeping up with supplies, stocking outlets
    - SIHA will be purchasing AED’s and when received will be developing a training plan for the crew on how to use them
    - September 12 is the workday for the Museum
    - Lin will be attending the Idaho Heritage Conference in Pocatello, along with Megan, in September
    - Cookies are needed for Monday’s SNRA/SIHA 50th event
      * Jenny and Bernie volunteered to bake a couple of dozen cookies each
    - SIHA Priorities
      * See Attachment #7
    - Gary asked why SIHA had such low numbers this year for FLS programs
      * Lin – not sure, but knows that thunderstorms just prior to a couple of the FLS events had an impact
      * Also, maybe it is time to reimage FLS
      * Liesl noted that she has noticed more local folks attending this year than last
      * Paul said we need to emphasize the efforts that SIHA has made in relation to COVID – separating people, etc.
      * Jenny – some folks are not happy with the change to 6:00 – interferes with dinner, etc., - people want to attend FLS then go home to dinner and for the day
      * Stewart asked if SIHA could livestream programs
        + Lin – not at this time – lack of WIFI at the Museum site
        + Liesl – SIHA needs better electronic equipment if we are going to do this
        + Lin – we will revisit FLS when planning the 2023 program

**Storage Shed Donation**

* The Mountain Mamas is offering to donate a storage shed and contents to SIHA with the condition that on occasion the Mamas will be allowed to borrow some of the contents
  + Contents include tables, garbage cans, 10’x20’ tent, folding chairs, dolly, wagon, weights, extension cords, signs, etc.
    - some of this material is old and needs to be disposed of
      * this will make room for SIHA to store some of their materials
      * need to move the shed
        + will need to obtain permission from the Forest Service to relocate it on the SIHA Museum site
        + Bobbi has expressed the opinion that she doesn’t feel the need for SIHA to have this shed, not sure it keeps with the historic nature of the Museum site
        + Paul – can we move it and put it behind the Clerk’s cabin, office or toolshed?

Lin – yes, have measured and think the best place would be behind the office, but it will be tight - it can’t be permanent – we do need storage space at the Museum site – could use barn, but not easy to walk stuff that distance and back – we used the toolshed for storage, but now that that is an exhibit, we no longer have that for storage and we are storing things in all kind of weird places

* + - * + Laurii Gadwa – it will not be a problem to move it, could be accomplished by donated equipment
        + Jenny – is there any rent that would need to be paid to leave it where it is until we can work out the details?

Laurii – don’t think so, City has no immediate need for the space

* + - * + Jenny – is there any downside to accepting the donation at this time and then work out the details?
        + Paul – we can accept it with the condition that we have to work out the details with the Forest Service regarding moving it to the Museum site
        + Laurii – yes – accept the donation with an agreement with the Mountain Mamas that we will move it pending approval from the Forest Service.
        + Liesl – oppose doing this

Maybe we could use it at the Obsidian Site

Don’t feel it is appropriate for the Museum site

* + - * + Amy – what can we use of the contents that are in the shed?

Lin – tables and maybe some of the other things, but not all of the contents

* + - * + Laurii – the tent is a great asset – cost about $3,000
        + Amy – a trailer for storage might be a better answer – mobile, etc. – move it to where the contents are needed
        + Stewart – we need more discussion on this
        + Terry feels we need more onsite storage at the Museum site and SIHA should pursue this with the Forest Service
        + Gary – we are desperate for storage space
        + Terry – we could locate this shed somewhere without it being a distraction, we need to work with the Forest Archeologist on locating it on the Museum site
        + Liesl – we need to have a better long-term vision – keep it on the agenda
        + Stewart – if we accept this donation, accept it with the understanding that it hinges on approval from the Forest Service
        + Amy – we need to take more time to discuss and plan for this
        + Paul – start the process, if it is a no go, we haven’t lost anything
        + Gary – doesn’t see any downside to accepting the donation pending Forest Service approval
        + Gary moved that SIHA accept the shed donation from the Mountain Mamas, pending approval from Forest Service to locate it on the Museum site. Motion seconded by Becky. Motion passed unanimously.

Lin will start the process in September.

* + - * + Roland asked how the wedding went at the Museum site this summer

Lin – wedding did not go forward

SIHA will only be accepting wedding proposals for September and not for June due to heavy workload at that time

**Center for the Sawtooths Update**

* Stewart Wilder
  + Good discussions continuing with the Jones family and others at this time
    - Been going on now for almost a year
    - Very close to arriving at a mutually agreed to donation agreement, still a lot of excitement
    - Boiled down donation agreement is now in the hands of the attorneys
      * This agreement will go back to the Committee who will make a recommendation to the full SIHA Board
      * Will call a special meeting to vote on the final donation agreement
        + Just a couple of pieces yet to be finished
        + Will need to have an appraisal done within six months of the donation
    - Stewart again expressed his thanks and appreciation to Doug Obletz, Paul Hill and Carter MacNichol for their tremendous contributions to the planning efforts to date for this project
      * There is a lot of pent-up energy to go forward with this project
    - Paul agrees, thinks we are very close
    - Amy – thinks the gas tank remediation work should be done by November

**Next Meeting**  October 20th – location – possibly at the Gadwa Home

Meeting adjourned – 12:04 pm

Respectfully submitted,

**Ed Waldapfel**

ED WALDAPFEL

Secretary

Attachments (7)