

Draft 10/20/2022

Key: [Board Action](#)

[Individual Commitment](#)

SAWTOOTH INTERPRETIVE & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting

Gadwa Home

October 20, 2022

Participants

Officers: President – Stewart Wilder, Vice-president Terry Clark, Secretary Ed

Waldapfel

Business Manager: Erica Cole

Present, via Zoom or dial-in: Treasurer Liesl Scherthanner, Directors Roland

Miller, Paul Hill, Ed Cannady,

Bernie Hartz, Amy Jones, Becky Obletz, Hannah

Fake, Caitlin Straubinger

Executive Director: Lin Gray

Forest Service Liaison: Kirk Flannagan - SNRA Area Ranger

Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Wilder. Roll call of participants conducted. [The motion to accept today's Consent Agenda \(Attachment #1\) and 8/18/2022 Board Meeting notes \(with corrections from Liesl and Bobbi\) was made by Terry Clark and seconded by Gary Gadwa. Motion passed unanimously.](#)

UPDATES AND REPORTS

President's Report

- Stewart Wilder
 - Stewart stated that SIHA had a great season this year and he expressed his appreciation to the staff
 - Looking forward to the next season

Finance Report

- See Attachment #2
- Liesl Scherthanner
 - This report is a “work in progress”
 - SIHA would like to raise the salaries of the Staff
 - We are transitioning to an online system in order to make the financial records more available to others
 - Liesl feels that the Hansen Business Company in Challis would be a great company to work with – very responsive, reasonably priced
 - Would be a great help with payroll, taxes, transitioning to an online system, etc.

- I think Erica and Lin are both on board with this and hope the Board will do the same
- SNRA Area Ranger Kirk Flannagan came on the line – will take a break from the Treasurer’s Report to accommodate his schedule

SNRA Liaison Report

- Kirk Flannagan – SNRA Area Ranger
 - SNRA Deputy Area Ranger Bobbi Filbert is on detail to the Salmon/Challis National Forest as Acting District Rangers in Salmon – she will be back on the SNRA in mid-January
 - There will be a detailer brought in behind Bobbi – interviewed a candidate yesterday and will hopefully get them on board very soon
 - Stanley Office – Offices Manager Megan Scott is expecting so the office will be on a modified schedule this winter
 - Attempting to fill several positions at the moment – Recreation, Partnership, Fisheries – feel good about all the jobs we have out on the street right now
 - Biggest challenge is finding somewhere to put these people when they arrive
 - New Forest Supervisor on the Sawtooth National Forest – Jake Strohmeier – was out on the SNRA for a day already
 - Local Idaho resident, worked on Payette and Boise National Forests
 - Paul asked if Kirk fills all the positions they have now, what will be the total number of staff that will be on the SNRA?
 - Kirk – don’t have that at my fingertips but I can get it to Lin, we do have an updated organization chart
 - Ed C – is Taryn Petersen on board now in Stanley? Law Enforcement position
 - Kirk – he is apparently in Stanley now, has passed all his tests but has 3 more months to go before he is permanently in place – talked with his supervisor yesterday and after the 3 months we will have a full-time law enforcement officer living in Stanley
 - Terry Clark – who is our permit administrator for the visitor center and museum?
 - Kirk – we have three positions that handle 260 special use permits – like the visitor center, museum, fish weirs, summer homes, powerlines, etc.
 - Elizabeth and Kalee – on site – Whitney Burgess – no longer with us so will have to figure out whether it will be Elizabeth and Kalee – Elizabeth is at the SNRA Headquarters Office and Kalee is out of the Stanley Office
 - Ed W – suggested to Kirk that he gets new Forest Supervisor out to a SHIA Board meeting next year with a visit to the Visitor Center and Museum

- Kirk – will do – Lin let us know and we will get him up for a “meet and greet”
- Projects – Redfish – Stanley Trail
 - Moving right along – working thru the moraine at the moment
 - May be done sometime in November, weather depending
 - Will get a news release out as soon as the work is done and the trail is open to the public
 - Ed C/Gary G – is there any ongoing litigation?
 - Kirk – there is an appeal, but haven’t seen anything in the last 45 days – nothing to indicate any delays
 - Amy – kudos to the crew doing the work – they are working hard, working late, etc.
 - Stanley RV Dump Station – will be completed in November
 - New asphalt at the ranger station, dump station
 - Funded by a grant from Idaho Parks and Recreation
 - Redfish Lake Phase III
 - Adjustment to the road past the visitor center/Glacier View CG, new day use area at North Shore, removal of parking lot at the lower part of the visitor center and a new parking lot constructed
 - October 26 pre-bid meeting scheduled for this project at Redfish with our engineering group
 - Last year’s bids came in way too high
 - Terry Clark – assuming we get good bids, would the work be done next summer?
 - Kirk – I think the work would start this coming spring or the fall of 2023
 - Redfish Internal Trails and Trailhead Project
 - Trail system going from Checkpoint Charlie to the Lodge and all of the campgrounds and boat ramps within the Redfish Complex
 - Trail will be native surface with exception of 12-foot-wide trail in front of the lodge due to high volume of traffic
 - People will be able to go all the way from Stanley through the Redfish Complex on a non-motorized trail that is open to hiking and biking
 - Pursuing obtaining funding and partners for this project
 - Gary – will that trail go to the Redfish Center?
 - Kirk – yes – it will go in front of the Center
 - Terry – is the Fishhook Boardwalk Trail part of this contract?
 - Kirk – did an estimate on this two years ago - \$550,00 to repair/replace

- Didn't rank well enough for the Great American Outdoors Act funding
- No plan in place right now to replace that trail
- Amy – do you have a plan in place to fix and update the trail so that it is useable
 - Kirk – last summer, some volunteer work last summer but no plan in place
 - Looking for some help
 - Amy – it is a great trail, charming
 - Bernie – there was a plan when Eric McQuay was here for connecting this trail with the Internal Trails Project
 - Kirk – makes sense, but haven't seen those plans – make it ADA compliant as well – would change character of trail
 - Ed W – suggested that a project be put together were volunteers from SIHA, SNRA employees, Sawtooth Society folks do the work – great opportunity to work together, get to know one another, get the trail back to usable condition.
 - Kirk – great idea – Lin we need to continue pursuing this
- East Fork Road – Bowry Guard Station
 - Old Dowton Property – locked gate now across the road
 - Multiple landowners are locking it and preventing public access
 - SNRA's full intent is to provide full access through this area
 - The United States owns a 50' wide fee strip through here that doesn't follow the road – crosses West Pass

Creek in a different area from where it is located now

- Next week – going to stake the fee strip along with the boundaries
 - Issue is getting through/over the fence and the creek crossing
 - It will be a long-drawn-out process – we are talking with elected officials
 - Ed C – long overdue
 - Vandalism is not an issue
 - Becky seconds what Ed stated
 - Gary – vandalism was never an issue with the previous landowner
 - Rolland – was there this summer, SNRA needs to talk with former SNRA Area Ranger Carl Pence and get his input, history, etc.
 - Terry agrees – Carl did a lot of work on this issue
 - Kirk mentioned that he toured this area with Ed C and was given the background on what Carl P did as Area Ranger
 - Stewart asked about building plans for this property
 - Kirk – two pre-built cabins
 - Terry asked about statements from Custer County Commissioners
 - Kirk – not aware of actual statements from the Commissioners
 - Ross Fork Fire – still active in the Big Smoky Drainage, Alturas Inlet and Abe's Chair – weather shift with moisture coming Saturday which should really help – if that happens SNRA will be able to release the helicopter

- Area closure is still in effect
 - Will leave the closure in effect until December 1 and then open it to track vehicles and non-motorized users
- Meeting next week with residents of Smiley Creek and Beaver Creek regarding their concerns with the Ross Fork Fire
 - Meeting with the general public next spring – wildfire collaborative meeting
- BAER (Burned Area Emergency Response) Team completed their work about a month ago – produced a map of fire intensity and severity on the soil
 - Shows some areas of high severity, some concern, but not overly concerned about runoff coming down into the communities
 - Funding has been set aside to deal with invasive species plants, ditch repair, culvert cleaning, culvert replacement
 - The bridge in the t Frenchman area has collapsed – will replace it next summer
 - Stewart asked if Beaver Creek Canyon is accessible
 - Kirk – that area is still affected by the area closure
 - Gary – the Champion Creek snowmobile bridge has collapsed – who do we talk to about getting that repaired?
 - Kirk – Susan James and Melissa – new dispersed recreation person in Stanley
 - Paul – the firefighters did a great job protecting Smiley Creek - who can attend the Smiley Creek meeting?
 - Kirk – only those directly affected by the fire have been invited
 - Ed C – saw in the paper that Blaine County approved cabins at Beaver Creek?

- Kirk – group of landowners did an outstanding job working with the Forest Service – a couple of existing structures will be maintained, some will go away – you will see 9 cabins, 1200’ sq ft in size, will be built for the landowners that will meet the Private Land Standards and components of the easements, some area will not be developed – there will be lodgepole pine tree screening
- Stewart thanked Kirk for his thorough report and also extended kudos to Kirk and his staff for the great job they did with the SNRA 50th anniversary events – amazing weekend

Finance Report (Continued)

- Liesl
 - Paul asked if there will be more 2022 grants coming in
 - Liesl – yes - \$40,000 Museum roof reimbursement
 - May be some excess, if so will be used for attic repair work
 - Lin said that the reimbursement from the Central Idaho RAC Committee still needs to be ratified
 - Terry stated that that the folks on that RAC have not been operating very long and that the folks on the Salmon NF may have dropped the ball regarding some of the procedures
 - Stewart said regarding the W-2 vs. Stipend issue – we need to get some clarity on this
 - Liesl – we are working on this – she thinks we can do much better for our people regarding this issue
 - It was suggested that maybe with the Redfish Center Program Lead, we can do more grant writing
 - Lin stated that it is important to try to structure our program so that stipend is correct, may need to bring in some experts on this
 - Paul – if you go to employee status, it is going to cost us money and our interns money – would be very, very reluctant to go to the IRS and ask questions
 - Gary – why are you thinking that we need to change this?

- Lin – because the type of work our interns are doing might not technically qualify for stipends
 - Liesl – there were good reasons why we have been doing what we have been doing over the years – due to a lot of factors I think we need to revisit this to make sure we are in the clear
- Moved by Ed Waldapfel, with the caveat that the budget will come back to Board in December, seconded by Bernie to accept the financial report as presented. Motion passed unanimously
 - Paul thanked Liesl for getting the budget out a couple of months early
 - Liesl – added that transitioning to Quick Books may involve some additional funding to accomplish – this will show up in the December budget

Membership Update

- Caitlin Staubinger
 - Year to date – 37 members \$6,800
 - 2021 39 members \$7110
 - Donations are reflected in Liesl’s report
 - We are on track with 2021

Outlets Update

- Erica Cole
 - Upgrading our current system for improved tracking
 - Erica presented a request for the Board to support a sales and inventory management system upgrade – see Attachment #3 for details
 - Gary asked about registers and credit card machine failures
 - Erica – we have three that are malfunctioning – they are not matching the printouts – sales and inventory are off
 - Stanley RS credit card machine died this summer and we are now renting one for \$20/month
 - According to Erica “Square” is a good option for SIHA to consider
 - About the same amount of dollars – will research this and get back to the Board
 - Amy and Stewart have both used “Square”
 - Stewart says you can’t beat their fees – very reasonable
 - Gary asked if “Square” was simple to use
 - Erica – yes
 - Lin will continue to research and make patches in the meantime
 - Will need to make a major investment here

- Lin suggested using just a cash drawer with a tablet at some of our smaller sales outlets – there would be no need for a cash register
- 9 outlets - @\$1400/outlet for cash registers

Preservation Committee Update

- Terry mentioned that he and Stacey had completed the oral history with Frank Rowland
 - Frank had some amazing stories to share
- Gary stated that we need to regroup regarding future interviews

Executive Committee Update

- Terry Clark
 - There is a need for the Committee to review past plans and look at future plans for filling Board vacancies
 - Currently looking at 2 vacancies
 - Ed Waldapfel – January 2023
 - Ken Hartz
 - Committee – Stewart, Terry, Liesl, Gary, Becky, Jenny
 - Terry will set up a Committee meeting and send out an email to Committee members regarding the meeting to review the list of potential candidates, where we are, etc.
 - Lin reminded the group that the Board will need a new Secretary
 - Liesl expressed her appreciation to David Pinney for joining the Board, for stepping up and bringing his tools to the Museum Day – really helped out tremendously

Executive Director's Report

- Lin Gray
 - See Attachment #4
 - Lin expressed her thanks to Gary for all his help with maintenance work, winterization, etc.
 - Also to Erica for her work with the sales outlets
 - Regarding the Raft Trip Raffle – 29 tickets have been sold to date
 - Amy requested that Lin send out an email regarding the Raft Trip Raffle announcement
 - Newsletter – final draft stage and will be ready in second week in November
 - Content – an article on Cooperative Associations, 50-year anniversary of SIHA with a timeline of the history of SIHA
 - May ask for additional content and review help
 - Will be removing the list of lifetime members from the newsletter and placing that list on the website – need to get it out of the newsletter – will free up more space for other information
 - Paul likes the idea of an article on the first 50 years of SIHA
 - There have been many changes that have taken place since the formation of SIHA and SIHA today

- Lin reported that the cost for Little Green Light is going up a little this year – will be keeping an eye out on this
- Public Lands Alliance meeting will be in Portland, Oregon this year
 - Will be contacting Becky and Jenny regarding availability of sleeping rooms for the meeting
 - Terry mentioned that the PLA meeting is open to Board members
 - He said that this meeting is a great opportunity for learning and networking
 - **Lin will get the dates out to Becky and Jenny**
- Regarding 2023 schedule
 - We would like to change the design and format of the FLS
 - Experienced a big drop in attendance this year
 - Due to thunderstorm activity
 - Also have heard that attendance to these kinds of events is down nationwide – maybe as much as 40%
 - Can we reduce the number of FLS events?
 - Did the time change have anything to do with drop in attendance?
 - If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions regarding this, please contact Lin
 - Ed C asked if we have any specifics on why attendance is down at our FLS
 - Lin – no hard date
 - Liesl – suggested that maybe some folks still have lingering concerns about gatherings in light of Covid and that people are becoming more used to Zoom meetings, etc.
 - Agrees that we let the Committee run with it and suggest any changes
 - Group consensus – okay with less FLS events and have the committee review the program for any other changes
 - FLS Committee – Gary, Jenny, Ed C, Stewart, Amy, Paul, Becky
 - Lin asked if the Board schedule is ok? Is it a good schedule?
 - Bernie and Paul both said they feel the new schedule works fine
 - **Lin will get the 2023 schedule out to the Board for review**
 - Next Board meeting is December 8th
 - Gary asked if SIHA ever got any revenues out of the art events in Boise
 - Lin – Gallery 601 - yes \$600 – and thanks to Caitlin and Stewart for being there representing SIHA

Center for the Sawtooths

- Stewart

- Regarding the Donation Agreement
 - Have had some very good meetings and are very close to finalizing
 - Waiting on Attorney Siler – reversion language issue
 - The state of Idaho will remediate the tank issue pending - completion of the Donation Agreement
 - Paul – has talked with Attorney Siler – draft coming out no later than Monday – once we get it, we will share with the Board
 - Donation Agreement is 95% done, but needs an attachment dealing with restrictive covenants for the use of the property
 - Siler will draft and review with the family
 - Looking at closing sometime in 2023
 - Amy is optimistic that this will happen, but if we don't hear soon, the State of Idaho won't be able to do the tank remediation work until next year
 - The Board was reminded that we have a funding goal of \$160,000 to start up and get going on this project
 - Jenny reminded the Board that a lot of the financial data that we are using was generated almost a year ago to that may need to be updated

Round Table/Open Topic

- Terry welcomed Ed C back home
- Gary mentioned that the judge dismissed the Warren Defamation Suit against the Gadwas, Michaels, Fosberrys
- Lin asked about doing something in December regarding the 50th Anniversary of SIHA
 - Gary suggested a news release at a minimum
 - Terry suggested hosting some type of in person open house
 - Stewart suggested a proclamation, perhaps from the Governor
 - Lin – yes – a news release as well as an article in SIHA's December newsletter
- **Next Board Meeting – December 8**

12:08 Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Waldapfel

ED WALDAPFEL
Secretary

Attachments (7)