

Draft 12/8 /2022

Key: [Board Action](#)

[Individual Commitment](#)

SAWTOOTH INTERPRETIVE & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting

Zoom

December 8, 2022

Participants

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

Waldapfel, Treasurer Liesl Schernthanner

Business Manager: Erica Cole

Present, via Zoom or dial-in: Directors Roland Miller, Paul Hill, Bernie Hartz,
Amy Jones, Becky Obletz, Dave Pinney, Jenny
MacNichols

Executive Director: Lin Gray

Forest Service Liaison: Mike Krupski – Acting Deputy Area Ranger

Kathy Atchley – Caribou/Targhee NF

Volunteer: Hannah Fake

Guest: John Rember

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 the 10/20/2022 Board Meeting notes \(with corrections was made by Paul Hill and seconded by Jenny MacNichols. Motion passed unanimously.](#)

UPDATES AND REPORTS

President's Report

- Stewart Wilder
 - Important that the Board reviews the 2023 Budget and work priorities today
 - Stewart extended a welcome to guest John Rember
 - John was invited by Liesl to attend today's meeting
 - John is interested in learning more about SIHA

SNRA Liaison Report

- Mike Krupski – Acting SNRA Deputy Area Ranger
 - Mike is in the Acting role until mid-January
 - Will likely be one more Acting before this position is filled on a permanent basis
 - Current Deputy Bobby Filbert has accepted a transfer to the Salmon/Challis NF as the District Ranger on the Salmon/Cobalt Ranger District

- Her husband, Matt, will remain as Fire Staff on the SNRA
- SNRA is filling a number of vacant position as they are receiving the budget to do so
 - Will have three people on the front desk at Stanley
 - New Special Use Administrator is Kaylie Petros
 - Also, Elizabeth Yerk
 - Hiring a new Wildlife Biologist GS-11 to replace Robin Garwood, who will be retiring in the future
- Gary asked about the status of the Law Enforcement Officer for Stanley
 - Mike – new officer will be based in Stanley and reports for duty in February 2023
- Stanley to Redfish Trail
 - About two weeks of work remaining – completion depends on snow conditions
 - Signs, gates, rock barriers are all that remains to be done
 - Plans will be made to do some kind of ribbon cutting in the spring
- Redfish Phase III
 - Went out for bid, but the bids received came in too high
 - Reworking this project – it is now back on the table for rebidding – will get the date to Lin
 - Terry mentioned that the management of the new parking area needs to be well managed between space needed for visitor center parking and beach parking
 - Bernie said we appreciate the updates and SIHA needs to keep getting these
- Ed Waldapfel mentioned that Kirk Flannigan's father recently passed away
 - Mike said that Kirk was currently away for the funeral and that Kirk has not mentioned his father's passing to employees or others
 - Terry asked that the SNRA let SIHA know when so that we can send a card

Caribou/Targhee NF Liaison Report

- Kathy Atchley
 - Three of the Forest's district offices are now open
 - Christmas sales of product is on going
 - Island Park office is closed until next spring
 - Merchandise supplies are good at each of the outlets
 - Ashton Office was closed during the Thanksgiving Week due to illness of many of the employees

Finance Report

- See Attachment #2
- Liesl Schernthanner
 - Important that we get the 2023 budget approved
 - The proposed budget is about the same as presented at the October meeting
 - Main change is in regard to the Lead Naturalist position
 - Paul inquired as to whether or not SIHA is close to meeting our 2022 budget
 - Liesl – the main thing depends on the reimbursement for the Museum roof project – yes – other than this we will meeting our 2022 budget
 - Paul also asked if SIHA has all the money in hand now regarding the adjustments for the three items at the bottom of the 2023 budget?
 - Liesl – yes – we have budgeted for all of this
 - Stewart mentioned that we are down on donations and fundraising
 - Liesl – we were hoping to get some large donors, but we didn't, so are definitely down on that, late starting fundraising on the raft trip, expects the membership number to go up as we are just now pushing the membership activity with our fall newsletter – so if you put these three items together, we will be low, no large donations except for the Val Browning donation which is very much appreciated
 - Paul – I assume that the Clerk's Cabin renovation is on hold?
 - Liesl – yes – on hold – we do have \$15,000 in SIHA funds plus money from donors for this project – staff has changed at BSU that we were working with, costs of materials have gone up, etc., so we are holding these funds, but we may need to communicate with those who have specifically donated to this project should SIHA change plans for this project
 - Paul asked about cash on hand at the end of this year
 - Liesl – we are still awaiting the \$40,000 reimbursement for the roof project
 - \$300,000 current total assets
 - Paul “great job on the budget”
 - Motion made by Bernie and seconded by Paul to approve the proposed 2023 budget. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Liesl added that SIHA is working with an accounting firm in Challis regarding transitioning to online Quick Books
 - Also, if anyone is interested in looking at our federal tax form, that is available for review

Membership Update

- Lin Gray
 - Report is not complete yet – our fall newsletter was just sent out November 28th
 - 65 members to date, compared to 68 last year
 - 65 raft raffle tickets sold to date
 - Should we stop at 100 tickets instead of our target of 200 tickets?
 - Liesl – feels we should stay with the 200 tickets even if it means going into 2023 to accomplish this
 - Stewart – we can expect increases as a result of the newsletter
 - Lin – donors – right now we are at 90 compared to 72 last year – some of these are in the form of raft tickets
 - Jenny asked if Lin could remail the email regarding the information about the raft raffle so that she and others can forward it to others
 - Lin will do, she also mentioned that the email will be going out to an additional list
 - Amy mentioned that she forwarded this information to some friends and at least one has purchased a ticket
 - Terry has received some calls for information regarding the raffle
 - Kathy Atchley asked to be added to the email list
 - Lin will also send the raffle information out to all of the sales outlets

Outlets Update

- Erica Cole
 - Sales have exceeded previous years
 - \$114,600 in sales to date
 - Sales were down in November and December, however this is to be expected as tourism numbers are slow this time of the year
 - Paul stated that SIHA may set a new sales record this year
 - SNRA Headquarters will be selling Nordic ski passes so we can expect an increase in sales over the holiday season
 - Looking at more custom products, like postcards, magnets, etc., that will have the SNRA logo on them – also tee shirts and coffee mugs
 - SIHA received a bill of \$100/machine from Elavon, the credit card company we deal with
 - This fee was waived in 2020 and 2021 however the company reinstated it for 2022 – an unexpected expense of \$800, which we paid in September
 - We will be looking at some different options at future Board meetings

- Our current system uses cash registers/credit cards
 - Looking at Square system as we need to be more cost effective
 - Hope to use this at the Redfish Visitor Center
 - If anyone has a tablet that they would like to donate to SIHA for use with the Square system, please contact Erica
 - Paul asked if ipads or itablets would also work
 - Erica – it depends on the model and age
 - Gary thought that the Redfish Visitor Center had a bunch of tablets
 - Lin/Terry – yes, but they are 2012 vintage and do not handle current apps
 - Gary asked if we have Christmas sales at the Headquarters
 - Erica – yes, Headquarters and Caribou/Targhee outlets
- Terry mentioned he had heard that the SNRA Headquarters was being replaced by a new building – are we coordinating with the Forest Service regarding SIHA’s needs for adequate sales space? We need to be involved for sure in planning for space
 - Mike Krupski – appears the new building will be on the current site
 - Terry requested of the SNRA that as they plan, please involve the SIHA
 - Mike – will pass that request on
- Dave Pinney asked about SIHA doing online sales
 - Lin – yes, this has been discussed, but has never gone beyond the talking stage
 - This will require some back end on the website, we could manage that
 - It is a long-term goal, but not sure if we can do this in the short term
 - Amy – if you can get people to donate online, concentrate on this first, then go after online sales

Preservation Committee Update

- Oral Histories
 - Gary Gadwa
 - Nothing to report at this time

Executive Committee Update

- Board Vacancies
 - Terry Clark
 - See Attachment #3
 - Amy commented that the paper Terry and Committee developed with the goals, process, etc., is great
 - Terry said the Committee identified two groups
 - 2022 list – those that we would like to be actively trying to interest in Board involvement or committees
 - 2023 list – people to be cultivated
 - Board currently has one vacancy now – Bylaws allow for up to 15 people
 - Second vacancy will open in January – vice Ed Waldapfel
 - SIHA needs to focus on the 2022 list
 - Sue Orb – Wood River Valley resident, active in conservation and other organizations, a lot of energy
 - Kim's - medical doctors, live in Boise, but have property at Casino Creek, very supportive of SIHA
 - John Rember – Valley resident, one of our bestselling authors, big supporter of SIHA
 - 2023 “Cultivate List”
 - Jack Hand – Hailey and Stanley resident, recently retired as CEO of Power Engineers
 - Eric Boe – philanthropist, on the Board of the SPUR Foundation, belongs to one of the two families that bought Brent Wooley's property
 - Michelle Praggastis – relative of Amy Jones, also gave name of her daughter who is in her thirties – would be a good candidate representing younger views, grew up in Wood River Valley, outdoors folks, property at Cabin Creek
 - Jeff Ballas – retired recently from Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch, attend FLS, etc.
 - Brian & Kathleen Bean – owners of Lava Lake Land and Livestock, ranchers, live in Wood River Valley pretty much full time, Brian spoke at one of our FLS sessions
 - Amy requested that Terry send the Board the top 3 things that each of the above potential candidates could bring to SIHA
 - Terry discussed the process of requesting each candidate to submit a resume, which is shared with the Board prior to making any selections
 - Terry will honor Amy's request
 - Paul thanked the Committee for doing such a nice job, Amy agreed
 - John Rember shared his thoughts after listening to what the Board and SIHA does

- Doesn't feel like he meets the criteria for being a Board member
- Feels he could be useful in writing letters on issues that he sees today, helping SIHA integrating and being a part of the local community
 - Wants to help the Forest Service becoming more "service" oriented than "regulatory"
- **John offered to spend time writing a letter to Lin for sharing with the Board before the next meeting**
- Bottom line – John prefers to be an informal asset to SIHA
 - Stewart thanked John for his comments and participation today – the Board would welcome his thoughts and suggestions
 - Terry also thanked John and said that he feels John meets the criteria for a Board member
 - Also agrees with John to help get the Forest Service focus more on "service" rather than "regulations" – one of Terry's goals as well
 - Jenny also thanked John and stated that "that is strategic planning"
 - Amy said "that is very cool John, and it would be very good to have you involved at any level"

Executive Director's Report

- Lin Gray
 - See Attachment #4
 - Jenny offered a barn on their property for storing SIHA's vehicle over the winter
 - A very welcome offer as the garage in Stanley that SIHA has been using will no longer be available after 2023
 - Bernie expressed concern regarding proposed changes in 2023 to the FLS – format change and schedule
 - Lin – main reason is the workload that FLS puts on the Executive Director
 - All-consuming during the 8-week season
 - Would like to go to every other week
 - Been doing this for 15 years now, need to make it a little bit more novel
 - Attendance down last year – maybe due a lot to poor weather
 - Erica mentioned that she had had some conversations with the community library, and they said that in general attendance at lecture-type programs is down – could be due to online access to programs

- Roland – what is the main strain – scheduling people? What about having some of the SIH naturalists present some of the FLS programs, maybe do briefer presentations, set up all the stuff?
 - Lin - not any one thing, early season, communicating with 8 different people, travel scheduling, printed materials, set up, take down, lodging, communicating with Redfish Lake Lodge, etc.
 - 8 weeks in a row during the summer season is pretty stressful
- Roland suggested that maybe the naturalists could do every other session – good training for the naturalists
 - Lin – there is a big difference between programs at the Visitor Center versus professional FLS presentations
- Roland – maybe have the naturalists do everyone – way to keep program going, good experience for the naturalists
 - Lin – naturalists do programs at the Visitor Center, but FLS is stark difference from campfire programs – generally at a different level
- Liesl – are you suggesting doing all the programs the Visitor Center?
 - Roland – just trying to find a way to save the program
- Gary – was it easier when Hannah was the Lead Naturalist?
 - Lin – yes, definitely – but Hannah didn’t help with the FLS – helped with other responsibilities – in general it wasn’t Hannah’s job to take on any of the FLS responsibilities
 - Gary – that was my point – would it be better if we had an “upscale” coordinator position
 - Lin – potentially
- Bernie – is there anything a Board member could do to help?
 - Lin – can’t separate out any one piece – all the pieces are connected
- Stewart – maybe we should consider a FLS committee to help Lin out with some of these details – worth considering

- Gary – suggests proposing every other Friday and promote alternate Saturdays at Redfish Lake
- Jenny – some abstract thoughts – post pandemic is seeing many different organizations holding back – Oregon Shakespeare Theater Repertory group was doing 11 shows, not they are only doing 4
 - Might be good for SIHA to pull back a bit, change it up a bit for different audiences – she thinks our audiences are different now – maybe people are afraid to jump back in “pre-pandemic”
- Bernie – suggests Lin look at the calendar and see what is being scheduled and like History Day for example, don’t schedule a FLS event the same weekend – Salmon Festival is another example – look at the limitations
 - Lin – looking at the proposed schedule for 2023 we have a FLS, and event scheduled for every weekend, so it won’t be back-to-back FLS presentation
- John Rember stated that when FLS presentations are bad, they are really bad and when they are good, they are very good
 - He would like to see FLS every other week
 - SIHA is an asset to all businesses in the community – like real estate ads in the Wood River Valley mention SIHA programs, etc.
 - Maybe the Clinic could do a session – they are part of the community and need help as well
- Terry – when he was Executive Director, FLS was the biggest drain each summer on his time – most hands-on part of the Executive Director’s job
 - Suggests that we do what Gary suggested and go with the committee’s recommendations
 - Believes that people are still reluctant to jump back into things
 - Agree with what others have said – stay nimble
 - Gary – it was a team effort during the six years he worked with Terry on FLS
 - Go with every other week, emphasize the Redfish Lake VC and use Forest Service professionals for some presentations

- Step back and see what we can do this upcoming season
- Likes 5 pm instead of 6 pm time
- Hannah – it is tough for local folks to do Friday and Saturday nights
- Stewart – hearing consensus so we will move forward with the committee’s recommendation
 - We need to be strategic with other community events

Priorities Planning

- **2022 Planning**

- See Attachment #5
 - Lin Gray
 - Not a lot of work was accomplished on the strategic planning items – hope to start on some of it this winter – haven’t been able to get to it yet due to all the day to day activities

- **2023 Priorities Planning**

- See Attachment #6
 - Did not make too many changes in 2023
 - Especially in light of anticipated Obsidian decision
 - Liesl – encourage SIHA to keep things on the list and remain flexible
 - Jenny – agrees with Liesl – we can only do what we can do – just keep moving forward
 - Paul – Liesl’s comments are valid
 - There are six different areas – are 1 or 2 of them more important than the others if resources are available/
 - Lin – priorities need to be set by the Board
 - Amy – also agrees with Liesl – go with 1, 2 or three of the most important items
 - Terry – once the decision and clarity on the Center for The Sawtooth’s is made, then consider changes
 - Stewart – then we will need another strategic plan
 - Lin – we will present the 2023 Priorities Plan as a draft at the February meeting
- Draft 2023 SIHA calendar is available – See Attachment #7
- Lin – we are giving our job descriptions a wider distribution and making contacts with potential candidates – especially the Coordinator position
- Lin expressed her appreciation for all the work that has been done in Ed Waldapfel as a Board member and Secretary
 - Amy – “so good”
 - Terry – good job for a long time
 - Stewart – “we know where to find you”

Center for The Sawtooth

- Not much to share
 - We did have an intermediate Board meeting a couple of weeks ago
 - Discussion continues to move forward by the two attorneys
 - Will notify the Board when we hear back from the attorneys

Miscellaneous

- Liesl mentioned that the community library Christmas party is on December 10th
- Stewart wished all “happy holidays”
- Gary had accepted a GS-5 job for 2023 fire season on the Pinyon Peak Lookout

11:52 am **Motion made by Gary and seconded by Liesl to go in Executive Session. Motion passed.**

11:59 am **Motion made by Paul and seconded by Terry to move out of Executive Session. Motion passed.**

Motion made by Terry and seconded by Becky to present SIHA’s Outlet Manager with a \$1,000 bonus for her outstanding work in 2022. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Topics

- Gary was asked to update the Board regarding the Boren lawsuit
 - Gary is representing himself
 - Other two folks have spent \$39,000 on attorney fees already
 - Another hearing has been set
- Lin mentioned that she is trying to locate an attorney to help us as we are looking into the 2020 Labor Laws and how that might affect SIHA
 - Stewart volunteered that he has a contact, Lin also has a contact

Meeting Adjourned 12:01 pm

Respectively submitted,

Ed Waldapfel

ED WALDAPFEL
Secretary

Attachments (7)