

FOMNRR BOD Minutes
Tuesday, May 2, 2017 – 3:00 PM
Vermillion Public Library – 18 Church Street-Vermillion

The meeting convened at 3:05 pm with introductions. Nine BOD members were present. BOD attendees included Shane Bertsch, Tim Cowman, Bob Foley, Pat James, Terry Julesgard, Paul Lepisto, Jim Heisinger (alternate for Clarence Pederson), Dave Swanson, and Barbara Yelverton. Rick Clark, Teresa Mentzer and Daniel Peterson attended as National Park Service representatives from the MNRR. Don Nelson was planning to call in to the meeting, but the phone connection was unavailable.

The March 2017 Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer and Membership Reports: Bob Foley agreed to take on the Treasurer's role and provided a financial update. The Treasurer's and Membership Reports were received, with some discussion. One discussion item was to develop a strategy for requesting membership renewals. The current plan is to include membership renewal reminders as an insert along with the June FOMNRR Newsletter.

FOMNRR Subcommittee Reports:

- Annual Meeting Subcommittee – The annual meeting and conference is set for Saturday, June 24, at 2 pm at Clay County Park. Logistics for the post-meeting paddle trip and hike at Frost GPA need to be finalized.
- Communications Subcommittee – Discussions are underway for strategies to reach and build relationships with landowners along the MNRR. The current plan is to engage some test groups to identify discussion topics and issues for landowner town hall-type meetings in the future. The test groups ideally would include two groups each from Nebraska and South Dakota. The hope is to conduct the test group meetings in July of 2017.
- Paddle Events Subcommittee – Tim Cowman highlighted upcoming paddle events (these are all listed on the FOMNRR website). The paddle trip schedule for the summer is pretty full, so the subcommittee suggested that FOMNRR “piggyback” on these currently scheduled events to raise awareness of the FOMNRR.

FOMNRR Board of Directors Vacancies: The BOD needs to replace Tim Bellis, Todd Larson and Mike Miller. Elijah Bonde from the Vermillion Chamber of Commerce is considering replacing Tim Bellis. Some ideas were discussed for replacements for the SD 59-mile City/Local Government position and the SD 59-mile Landowner position. The goal is to fill these positions by the July 22 FOMNRR two-year “birthday.”

Goat Island Planning Update: Rick Clark mentioned that the NPS-MNRR is in the process of requesting representation from the SDGFP and NGPC for a May 31 interagency planning meeting to initiate discussions for development of the Goat Island Management plan. Representation from county governments for affected counties (Clay County, SD and Cedar County, NE) will also be requested. The May 31 event is currently scheduled for the Muenster University Center on the USD campus in Vermillion. The goal is to have the final formal management plan completed and approved by October 2018.

Frost Trail Project Update: Tim Cowman mentioned that the trail building event took place on April 22, 2017, from 9 am until noon. Participants included NPS staff, Conservation Corps representatives, several

USD students, and several members of the general public (including FOMNRR members). The group cleared an approximately 300 m section of trail through a riparian woodland on Section 2 of the mapped trail. The goal is to have the entire 2.2 miles of trail through Frost GPA opened by July 4 of this year. The Living River chapter of the Sierra Club has agreed to provide temporary signage at the trailheads. A Memorandum of Understanding, including SD Game, Fish and Parks and the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System is currently being developed.

Grant Funding Subcommittee Report: Teresa Mentzer reviewed recent grant proposal work. A \$10,000 proposal is pending with North Face to provide permanent signage for the Frost GPA trail. Other grant proposals are currently in progress. Further options and strategies for pursuing funding for FOMNRR activities were also discussed.

NPF Webinar: Paul Lepisto participated in this webinar in March of 2017. He reviewed some highlights of the webinar, including methods for keeping donors engaged and “in the loop,” as well as suggested fundraising strategies and efforts.

ROSCOE Coloring Book: The approved payment to the Yankton Chamber of Commerce of \$355 has been made.

New Membership Brochure: A quote of \$ 135 for printing 1000 copies of the new brochure was received and fell within the approved amount from the last meeting, so printing will proceed soon.

MNRR Economic Impact Press Release: Highlights of the recent press release detailing the economic impact of the MNRR were briefly reviewed. A copy of the press release and details of the economic summary were previously distributed to all members by FOMNRR Chair Paul Lepisto.

FOMNRR Newsletter: Dan Peterson reviewed content to be included in the upcoming June newsletter, including how to include membership renewal information as a component of the newsletter. The current plan is for 70 hard copies to be printed, along with electronic copies to be delivered to members.

Upcoming Missouri River Events: Paul Lepisto briefly reviewed several events coming up over the next couple of weeks. These are all listed on the online FOMNRR calendar.

Next Meeting: The next FOMNRR BOD meeting will occur on June 24, in conjunction with the annual meeting and conference at Clay County Park.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm