

FOMNRR BOD Minutes

Tuesday, August 1, 2017 1PM

National Park Service Conference Room-Yankton

The meeting convened at 1pm with introductions. Eight BOD members were present. BOD attendees included Shane Bertsch, Jeff Fields, Shannon Wright, Pat James, Tim Cowman, Paul Lepisto, Terry Julesgard and Barbara Yelverton. Don Nelson participated via phone. Rick Clark, Daniel Peterson and Teresa Mentzer attended as National Park Service representatives from MNRR. FOMNRR member Don Noecker also attended.

Treasurer and Membership Reports: Bob Foley was unable to attend the meeting but sent an up to date financial report and current membership numbers. FOMNRR members currently total 84. BOD members discussed strategies to increase membership. A plan to target new members and market FOMNRR to a specific population via social media (specifically) Facebook was identified by Tim Cowman. Discussion followed.

A motion by S. Bertsch, seconded by J. Fields authorizing Tim Cowman to utilize up to \$200 for advertising to this population on Facebook passed unanimously.

FOMNRR—Annual Meeting: The Annual meeting took place June 24, 2017 at Clay County Park. The meeting was declared a success as a well coordinated, logistical, budget savvy and well attended event. A total of 50 people joined the FOMNRR for lunch.

New member sign up and membership renewal occurred during the meeting. Twenty-seven paddlers joined in the guided tour by Tim Cowman beginning at Myron Grove with a ,stopover on Goat Island and ending at Clay County Park. Rick Clark gave a short presentation about the history of Goat Island and the fact that it is now a public venue. Daniel Peterson led 15 intrepid hikers on the newly constructed Frost Trail.

The 2018 Annual Meeting location and date were discussed. BOD agree that holding the meeting on the 39 mile stretch is an excellent idea and keeping the third weekend in June as the date. Annual Meeting sub-committee will meet and report back to board suggestions for location and date.

FOMNRR Board of Director Vacancies: The BOD needs to replace Tim Bellis(Vermillion Chamber), Mike Miller(landowner 59 mile), Todd Larson(city of Yankton) and Todd VanMaanen. Elijah Bonde from Vermillion Chamber has indicated interest in replacing Tim Bellis. Ideas for potential replacements were discussed. The goal is to fill these board positions by the September/ October 2017 meetings.

Election of Officers: FOMNRR by-laws state this is to take place at first meeting after the annual meeting. After discussion, consensus of the board was to defer election of officers until the 2017 December meeting. Chair Paul Lepisto requests the board to bring forth nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and 1- at large. Please have nominees by mid-November.

FOMNRR Funding Requests:

Yankton chamber: Request by Kasi to participate in promoting Yankton area at Westroads Mall in Omaha, NE. After discussion by BOD decision made to respectfully decline request.

Junior Ranger Roscoe Club: Daniel Peterson gave an overview of the activities the club participated in this summer. The junior rangers are a group of 10 that meet two times per month throughout the summer at different venues and engaging in various activities. 2017 was a pilot for this program. It has been so successful there is a waiting list for next year. Motion by T. Cowman, seconded by S. Bertsch to grant the request of \$582.00 for payment of lanyards, backpacks and T-shirts for Junior Ranger participants passed unanimously. Tim Cowman requested FOMNRR be recognized for funding this portion of the project. Funding for the request will be taken from unrestricted funds.

New Membership Brochures: Dan relayed that the current photo on FOMNRR brochure needs to be changed. The photographer of the photo no longer wants it to be used on the brochure. BOD and FOMNRR members are encouraged and welcome to submit appropriate Missouri River photos. Tri-fold brochure will continue as brochure format.

SE Tourism Question: There is confusion as to exactly what the request entails. Dan Peterson will follow up with Jackie Fuks to clarify and give an update at next FOMNRR board meeting.

Upcoming Events:

August 12-13—Overnight Paddle Fort Randall to Springfield—David May's Leader (More info on the SD canoe and kayak association web site)

August 19 — Riverboat Days— Volunteers needed for parade. NPS will have a float in the parade. Paddle event 2:30pm-6pm

August 21— Solar Eclipse viewing Niobrara State Park—10am-2pm

Sept. 8-9— Vermillion Ribs, Rods, and Rock n Roll—FOMNRR volunteers needed to staff booth. NPS will provide banner and tent for event. Volunteer(s) will have to pick up and return equipment to Yankton.

Clarence Pederson (Sierra club member) has indicated he would volunteer for the event. Call Daniel Peterson for information regarding equipment pick up.

Sept. 16-19 Missouri River Outdoor Expo— Ponca State Park. BOD discussed importance of FOMNRR having a booth at Expo. Volunteers needed to staff a booth at Ponca for Friday, Sat and Sun. An email will be sent to members requesting volunteers for the event with info regarding location, time frames etc.

Oct. 17-19 Fall Friend Alliance Meeting— Bar Harbor, Maine. Rick Clark discussed the networking possibilities in attending this event. Rick urged a BOD or FOMNRR member to attend. A National Park Rep would accompany and possible funding for a portion of the trip available to the FOMNRR delegate. An informational email regarding the conference will be sent to FOMNRR members.

Subcommittee Reports:

Paddle Events: Tim Cowman reported that the Fort to Field paddle, conducted by Jarret Bies, was held on July 8. Approximately 83 paddlers participated.

Interpretive Paddle: August 26 Tim Cowman will lead. Open to public, limit of 15. Information available on water trail web site.

Communications: Pat James reported on her attendance at the Mississippi River collaboration and communication conference in La Crosse, WI in July. Communication subcommittee will set a date to meet and develop and implement strategies to engage stakeholders along the 39 and 59 stretches of the MNRR

Grant Writing: Teresa Mentzer reported on grant submission to NEEF for 2018 Roscoe project. The grant is moving up in line for approval. Don Nelson relayed information for grant proposals to the North East Nebraska Environmental Trust.

Informational Updates:

Goat Island: Rick reported that the interagency team has been formed. The team consists of SD and NE state and county officials. A Goat Island management plan will be completed by October 2018. The plan will then be presented to the public for comment.

Frost Trail: Tim Cowman reported that mowing of the Frost Trail was completed the end of June. Currently Lewis and Clark water is engaged in a bank stabilization project. Their trucks are using the trail until project completion. Projected completion is early fall.

NPS pass: Daniel Peterson reported that National Park Service Lifetime Pass rate is increasing to \$80 as of August 27

Meeting Dates and Location: Chair Paul Lepisto requested of BOD to think about future meeting times, dates and locations. Please bring suggestions to next meeting for discussion.

S.Bertsch moved to adjourn, T. Julesgard seconded. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Yelverton