

**FOMNRR BOD Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 – 10:00 AM**  
**National Park Service Conference Room - Yankton**

The meeting convened at 10:02 am with introductions. Ten BOD members were present, plus one attending by phone. BOD attendees included Tim Bellis, Tim Cowman, Bob Foley, Pat James, Todd Larson, Paul Lepisto, Don Nelson (phone), Dave Swanson, Randy Teboe, Shannon Wright and Barbara Yelverton. Rick Clark, Teresa Mentzer and Daniel Peterson attended as National Park Service representatives from the MNRR.

*BOD Update:* Stephanie Moser resigned from the BOD, as she has taken a new job. Todd Larson will be taking over for Stephanie Moser as Treasurer. In addition, the BOD is in discussion with the Lower Niobrara Natural Resource District in northeastern Nebraska to provide a Nebraska local government member for the FOMNRR board.

*Finances* – Todd Larson provided an update on FOMNRR finances. The current FOMNRR balance was \$3,422.01, plus some other recent checks and donations, including \$750 from the South Dakota Canoe & Kayak Association. Of this total, \$1,477.86 is dedicated to Missouri River education events.

*Membership Update* – The FOMNRR had one new member join during the past week. Membership renewal season is approaching and better membership contact information is needed for the renewal process to proceed smoothly. Discussion followed about the best mechanisms for maintaining continuity of membership and financial information. It was determined that the accounting software previously purchased by the FOMNRR would be the best way to manage membership renewal information.

Action Item: A motion (Foley/Teboe) to allow up to \$800 for the purchase of a dedicated FOMNRR notebook computer for this purpose passed unanimously. Tim Cowman will be responsible for this purchase.

*Updates on Recent Events* – The National Park Service Anniversary activity on August 25 was well attended, with about 200 people total present. The focus of this event was to raise awareness of the MNRR. In this vein, Daniel Peterson solicited submission of photographs for the MNRR website and Facebook page.

*Friends Alliance Meeting* – Daniel Peterson mentioned that a meeting of Friends groups for all NPS units will occur at Grand Canyon National Park on October 25-28. Dan will attend if a member of the FOMNRR board is also interested in attending.

*St. Croix National Scenic River Friends Group Mentorship* – Daniel Peterson mentioned that St. Croix River Friends group, which has been around for > 100 years, might be open to establishing a mentoring relationship with the FOMNRR. Consensus was that such a relationship between groups would be worth pursuing.

*Annual Meeting* – The idea of hosting the annual meeting of the FOMNRR on the river as part of a day trip was discussed. Such an event is likely to help foster support for the group and its activities. Consensus was to proceed with scheduling this event. The tentative date is Saturday, October 22.

*MNRR Park Films* – NPS films focusing on the MNRR are currently under production. These will include a 15-min introductory film as well as four shorter films focused on youth, geomorphology, Native American heritage and the steamboat era. The production team will be visiting the MNRR during the first week of October.

*Basic Fundraising Agreement* – Daniel Peterson circulated a document detailing the formal agreement between the NPS and the FOMNRR. Most of the document consists of boiler-plate language, but some verbiage can be modified to fit the needs of the specific Friends group. The document includes details of use of NPS property by the FOMNRR. Discussion followed. The deadline for having the FOMNRR Work Plan and Fundraising agreements fully finalized and in place is October 1, 2016. Daniel Peterson will email this document around to the BOD for review before the September meeting.

*Clay County Park-Mulberry Bend Corridor Project* – Tim Cowman provided an update on the progress of the trail project. The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) and the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System have provided approval for the trail project, so the next step is to provide a trail design to GFP for approval. Trail work and sign installation can then begin through the Frost GPA area. This coming fall and winter, trail and signage design will be completed, so that in April (when USD student volunteers are still available) we can begin work on the trail.

*Burbank Beach Trash* – A trash problem at the large beach on the Bolton GPA property formed by the 2011 flood was brought to the attention of several FOMNRR board members. The NPS has erected some no littering signs at the site, and this signage seems to be having at least a marginally positive effect on the problem.

*FOMNRR Outreach* – The winter edition of the newsletter is in production, with a planned release by December 1, 2016. Daniel Peterson provided some quotes for potential FOMNRR patches and stickers. Consensus was not to purchase patches and stickers, but instead look into the possibility of a lapel pin for outreach purposes.

*FOMNRR Upcoming Events* – Barbara Yelverton mentioned that the Sierra Club canoe trip, with 12 participants from around the U.S., will spend the night of September 6, 2016 on their property. The FOMNRR BOD is invited to join the group that evening. This will likely be a good event to help raise national awareness of the MNRR.

- The MNRR and FOMNRR will have booths at both the Vermillion Rib Fest (Sep 9-10) and the Missouri River Outdoor Expo at Ponca State Park (Sep 17-18). Volunteers are needed to help staff the booths at both events.

*Activities Spreadsheet* – Bob Foley has built a database highlighting Missouri River activities and the number of people reached by each activity. The database includes all events occurring on the MNRR, not just those sponsored by FOMNRR. The idea for this list is that it would facilitate reporting, recruiting and grant-writing efforts for the FOMNRR. Additional help in getting all appropriate events listed is needed.

*September Meeting* – This meeting will likely take place somewhere on the 39-mile reach of the MNRR. Paul Lepisto will circulate a Doodle Poll to determine the date.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm.