



# Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

## AGENDA & MINUTES

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Remote ZOOM Meeting 5:00pm**

### Agenda

- 5:00 Introductions
- 5:05 Approve May Minutes
- 5:10 Budget/Treasurer's Report
- 5:15 Membership Committee Report
- 5:20 Updates
  - Osprey Nest Cam
  - AmeriCorps IP Update (pollinator brochure)
- 5:45 Other Business
  - Directors & Officers Insurance (Do we need to reinstate this?)
  - Volunteer interest (How to involve members?)
  - Eagle Scout Project on NE Cottontail Rabbits
  - FMNWR phone number
  - Revise meeting time?
  - Other items?
- 6:00 Adjourn

## Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm

**Board Members Attending:** Glenn Davis, F. Tom Fudala, Neil Barkin, Joan Barkin, MaryKay Fox.

**Others in attendance:** Tom Eagle (USFWS), Joy Absher (USFWS), Joan Muller (WBNERR liaison), Emilie Brush (AmeriCorps), Mark Kasprzyk (Falmouth Conservation liaison)

**Introductions-** Joy Absher introduced herself to the board. She started in March 1st, 2022, her first time working with the USFWS. Her background was in the National Park Service with the last position at the Smokey Mt. NPS in the Educational department. Has visited the Assabet River NWR and hopes to visit Mashpee this summer. All welcomed her down for a visit at our Refuge.

### • **Treasurer's report For May 2022 Financials**

1. Fidelity/ Endowment Account **decreased** this month by \$55.46 ending @ \$ **21,199.54**
2. Cape Cod 5 Main checking: Starting balance \$**9155**, ending balance of \$ **9261 (+106)**
  - checking account activity
    - **Income: total \$ 607.18**
      1. Sylvan Nursery (Club reimbursement) = \$ **332.07**
      2. Deposit, interest = \$ **0.08**

3. Donations

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| a. PayPal (memberships) | = \$ 223.45 |
| b. Mailed Donations     | = \$ 25.00  |
| c. Amazon smile         | = \$ 26.58  |

➤ **Expenditures: total \$501.05**

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Zoom                           | = \$ 14.99  |
| 2. NWRA donation                  | = \$ 100.00 |
| 3. Windfall Bakery (Katelyn Cake) | = \$ 53.99  |
| 4. Sylvan Nursery (Club purchase) | = \$ 332.07 |

• **Membership Committee Report**-Joan and Neil Barkin

- Many donations this month. As Joan B. stated “delightful flood” of donations!

• **Updates**

- **Osprey Nest Cam**-Glenn. Three chicks now, little hope that the 4th egg will hatch. Over 1000 comments on our webpage. Glenn reads each one, and responds as needed. Those guests commenting are also encouraging others to donate to the friends group.
- **WBNERR Osprey Nest Display**-Joan Muller. Design moving along well. Nancy Church helping on display. Needs to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. She needs a high-resolution map for display-discussed options-the simpler the best. Joan needs to talk with Katelyn about Osprey preserved parts for display. Emilie to do an audio display, cover the highlights of the osprey cam for the display. Glenn mentioned he summaries all highlights so Emilie just needs to find the right software to cut and splice the parts for this display.
- **AmeriCorps update**-Emilie was asked what is the next step for the pollinator brochure? She mentioned that we should send out to more people to review-family, friends, refuge partners for feedback. Then once back, send to graphic designer. All agreed that we should choose Susie Perry who did the refuge and “rabbitat” brochures in the past. Glenn suggested that when Emilie sends the draft pollinator brochure out, to send as a pdf not word as the brochure gets all rearranged and difficult to read and understand the layout.

• **Other Business**

- **Directors & Officers Insurance (Do we need to reinstate this?)**-Glenn mentioned that in the past, we had Director and Officers Insurance (D&O Insurance) at about \$550/year but dropped coverage due to COVID and basically shut down. He mentioned that he attended an NWRA workshop on insurance needs and that D&O and general liability are the main parts suggested to purchase for Friends groups. He also has been in contact with Paula Goodwin at Assabet NWR about what their group has. Its really a balance of needs with budget constraints and event leadership. Events driving a need for liability insurance but lots of money for 2-3 events. It’s all situational driven, one example was that if we sponsor an event “Invite people to attend a friend’s event” then our liability kicks in vs. putting up a tent at a sponsored event (Oktoberfest). Joy mentioned that Assabet/Oxbow/Great Meadow NWR is finalizing their insurance needs. Glenn tabled the discussion for now.
- **Future Partner Events-**
  - **Estuary Day**-Joan M. brought up the Estuary Day event, third week in September. She would like the Friends to co-sponsor and be involved in this

event. Focus/theme of this year's events is the Osprey! Games, a band (grant already secured), etc. Joan need help to form a group to coordinate with Friends to keep it going and manageable. Adult birds may be gone by then but juveniles may still be on site. All agreed it's a great idea. Tom Eagle to look into boat trip for day. Glenn offered to help. Nancy Church too? Joan to keep updated.

- Eagle Scout Project on NE Cottontail Rabbits-Glenn mentioned that Griffin Jones from Boy Scouts Troop 42 has approached the Friends and the Falmouth Rod & Gun Club to work on a NE cottontail project-our "Rabbitat". Need a devoted volunteer to take lead on this from Friends. Griffin needs a primary contact; he will raise money and recruit members of his troop to get the project accomplished. Tom E. mentioned that perhaps an interpretive sign about the NE Rabbit and need for habitat creation by land owners to improved rabbit populations. We need to locate a site to do it. Should we encourage Rod and Gun Club to be the main leader on this? Great connection with release of rabbitat brochure and hands-on demo we've ben talking about. Joy mentioned that you should never work "alone" with a minor such as this boy scout but usually they work with a troop leader or parents. Good seque into the next subject.....
  
- **Volunteer interest (How to involve members?)**-Glenn asked the board how best to reach out to volunteers/members to engage with refuge and friends' projects? Some suggestions are:
  - Use Constant Contact to get awareness and action
  - Estuary Day involvement
  - Gardening events over the summer
  
- **FMNWR phone number**-Glenn mentioned the Friends cell phone number is actually MaryKay's personal phone. MK has been getting numerous calls about the osprey nest and orphaned or injured wildlife now that its spring. In the past, not so many to the phone calls or texts and emails but now this has increased. A good sign of success of outreach! Question: How should we deal with this new change? The phone number is located on the webpage but not on brochures. Glenn took it off the web page last week. Should we get a new phone? Discussion resolved that we don't get that many calls so why have someone monitor a new phone and expense? All agreed to not have a new phone and discontinue using MK's phone for friends' group. Discussion about what information is on the webpage. Two wildlife rehabilitation clinics on the cape-1. Cape Wildlife 4011 Main St. Barnstable, MA 02630 508-362-0111 and 2. Wild Care 10 Smith Lane, Eastham, MA 02642 508-240-2255. Best to make this more front and center on web page so people can find asap.
  
- **Revise meeting time?** Unanimous decision to remain at 5pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month. Glenn will try to keep agenda to 1 hour and board to keep focused on this as well.

**6:15 pm Vote to adjourn the meeting-motion by Tom F., second by Neil B. , unanimous vote to end meeting.**