



Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

MINUTES

December 6, 2022 Online Zoom Meeting

AGENDA:

- 5:00 Introductions
- 5:05 Approve November Minutes
- 5:15 Budget/Treasurer's Report
- 5:20 Membership Committee Report
- 5:25 Updates
 - Osprey Nest Cam (Glenn)
 - Visitor Center meeting December 13th
 - Seed purchases (MK)
 - Red Brook Rd water tap (Drew?)
 - AmeriCorps (Leo)
 - Brochure holders
- 5:45 Other business
 - Wampanoag/Plimoth Patuxet discussion (Joan B.)
- 6:00 Adjourn

Draft Meeting Notes

Meeting called to order at 5:04 pm

Board Members Attending: Pres. Glenn Davis, Treasurer, MaryKay Fox, Historian F. Tom Fudala, Membership - Neil and Joan Barkin, Lucinda Keith

Others in attendance: Tom Eagle (USF&W), Leo Lainez (AmeriCorps), Joan Muller

FMNWR Meeting Minutes Approvals

Minutes for November were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report For November 2022 Financials

1. Fidelity/ Endowment Account **increased** this month by \$964 ending @ **\$ 20,687.22**
2. Cape Cod 5 Main checking: Starting balance \$ **9,474.88**, ending balance of \$ **8,865.35**
 - checking account activity
 - **Income: total \$258.32**
 1. Deposit, interest = \$ 0.08
 2. AmazonSmile = \$ 13.71
 3. Donations PayPal = \$ 244.53
 - **Expenditures: total \$867.88**
 1. Zoom = \$ 14.99
 2. Ernst Seed = \$ 94.75
 3. Ernst Seed = \$ 129.75
 4. Sunderland Printing = \$ 318.75 (pollinator brochure design)

- 5. Public Lands Alliance = \$200.50 (T-shirt purchase)
- 6. Vista Print = \$ 73.32 (cards, return labels)
- 7. State PC form submittal = \$ 35.82 (2021 Tax return)

3. Glenn reviewed Walk for the Wild (WFTW) 2022 spending & income:
(across several months)

Income

Direct donations	\$ 522.50	
(after fees)	\$ 491.24	
Amplifier Fund	\$ 252.72	\$ 743.96
Business		
sponsorships	\$ 300.00	
Related donations	\$ 500.00	
Total income	\$ 1,543.96	

Expenses

Signs	\$ 204.79
Printing	\$ 45.11
t-shirts	\$ 200.50
Total expenses	\$ 450.40

Net Income \$ 1,093.56

Membership Committee

Neil and Joan will begin planning the membership appeal to go out in January/February.

Updates

Osprey Cam-Fixed and adjusted camera for next years nesting season. The camera is a bit angled but OK for now as the winter might move it around some.

Refuge Visitor Center partners meeting on December 13th. Zoom option so Joan and Neil can attend? Glenn will contact Ryan at WBNERR to discuss. There was no RSVP but each representative from key partners should be there. Also, is Rep Dave Vieira going to attend? Tom Eagle has not reached out to him; Glenn will follow through and check in with Dave about meeting. Glenn will finalize the Power Point presentation on Friends VC choices and send to Tom E. by Thursday.

Seed purchases-MK. Mentioned about the board approved purchase with NE Wetland Plants company and update on receiving the last plants in the order (Mapleleaf Viburnum) and poor-looking flats. The company never got back to us about filling out the order with these plants and MK checked the web page and these plants no longer available. So, MK purchased these bushes from an online company Tennessee Native plant. A sale near Christmas will offer 45% off so MK will purchase the remaining viburnums to match what we should have received.

Red Brook Rd water tap- Drew not present to update us on the progress here. Will see if he has an update by next month's meeting.

AmeriCorps-Leo has been working on the next newsletter's creature feature which is finished now so he'll begin work on the eelgrass article. After some discussion, mid Feb will be the deadline for the final draft then sent out. Neil had sent out an article about a NERR's research groups work on eelgrass and new findings in helping reestablish in watershed. Neil or Glenn will get this article to Leo to review for our newsletter.

Brochure holders for trail kiosks-USFWS moving away from hard copies, using QR codes. Tom Eagle will look for unused holders that Assabet River NWR. Katelyn pulled all holders during COVID so Drew will know where they are to be replaced. Glenn will check with Drew about them.

**Tom Eagle mentioned that the USFWS is willing to purchase plants, water hookup parts, and seeds for Friends going into the future. Update on the archery trailer- it was broken into and everything was stolen- all arrows, bows, gear, electric cords gone. They will be replacing all this gear for next year.

Other business -Wampanoag/Plimoth Patuxet Discussion-Joan Barkin wanted to bring this issue to the board for discussion and find some solution or support for the Wampanoag tribe members. Issue: The private company that runs Plimoth Patuxet received a large grant to update the displays. Most of the money went to updating the Mayflower ship, the English village and staff's offices. No grant money, which was earmarked to update the Wampanoag village display and the old, used, dirty trailer for tribal staff went to this part of the tourist attraction. The tribe was very upset and walked away.

Joan wanted to support the tribe by trying to get involved in remediating the situation. She has a trusted friend who is a community coordinator, a great people person who would be willing in an advisory capacity to help here. Delicate situation where it's a private company running Plimoth and unfair practices. Grant money diverted and not spent as was written is another issue. Much discussion on why Plimoth is not a Mashpee Refuge matter, but how to reconnect with the tribe in general moving forward. Tom E. mentioned how they are working with the Tribe on ecological restorations and thought the Friends could be involved in related educational aspects. We can invite the tribe to attend our meetings again, which Dale Oakley had done in the past, and perhaps have the tribe, either Jason or Dale, present at our next partners meeting to discuss how refuge partners can help support the tribe in general.

6:22 pm Unanimous vote to adjourn.