



Oregon Forest Homeowners' Association

OFHA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September, 22, 2012

Time: 10:00 AM

Attendees: Bill Kennedy, Jean Baecher Brown, Scott Letourneau, Bernie Kosola, David Hopkins

Location: Lake Of The Woods, Dave Hopkins' Cabin (Note: Jean and Scott participated in the Board meeting via conference call)

Call to order by Bill Kennedy at 10:05 AM

- Welcome and brief individual perspectives

- Additions and/or corrections to agenda

Lake of the Woods perspective regarding OFHA which is folded into the discussion of the New Business.

- Minutes from March 10, 2012 Board Meeting, Medford, OR. Scott made a correction to the March minutes to change the adjournment time for that meeting from 9:15 **PM** to 9:15 **AM**! March 2012 Board minutes were moved for acceptance, seconded with unanimous approval.

- Treasurer's report– Scott Letourneau

The revenue status for the organization has stayed even this year with the current bank balance at \$19,120.50. The balance from the March 2012 meeting was at \$19,200. Total donations from individual memberships has been \$3000 plus additional funds paid by the group tract memberships.

Expenses to date have been for meetings (OFHA annual meeting in March and sending representatives to the NFHA annual meeting in April, newsletter/website expenses, PO Box charges and additional misc. administrative expenses

It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Membership Update – Scott Letourneau -Membership re-enrollments are as follows: (out of 1600 contacts provided by the Forest Service data base)

Individual Memberships: 149
Tract Memberships: 250-300
Total membership: 450-500, approximately

Scott agreed to send a copy of the Data Base to all Board Members.

Bill asked Scott if he had been keeping up with the tax statements for the Federal government and the reporting requirements for nonprofit status with the State of Oregon. He indicated that he has all reporting requirements up to date.

Old Business

Bill indicated that in looking through past minutes all of the old business had been addressed.

New Business

1. Future of the Oregon Forest Homeowners' Association (OFHA)

In going around the “table” various members gave their views on the direction OFHA should be taking and on what is needed.

Bernie Kosola – Bernie indicated that he believes there is a very good chance that the “Cabin Fee Act” (CFA) that has been passed by the House of Representatives will find a way to passage in this Congress. Once passed great efforts will be needed to provide input in the rulemaking process. The NFHA has a core of about 15 people who have spent the last 5 years working on the passage of the CFA. He believes there will not be the interest or drive from the national organization to continue pushing into the rulemaking process for perhaps as much as another two years. It will fall on the shoulders of the local organizations such as OFHA. Thus, it is very important that OFHA continue to assist in that capacity.

Jean Baecher Brown – OFHA desperately needs new people to join the Board and to provide leadership to the organization. We would benefit greatly in utilizing an outside consultant to work with the Board on how to attract new members and to establish the cadre of leadership in the organization, among other areas of Board management.

Scott Letourneau – Scott feels it is hard to find people to donate time; everyone is busy. We still need to continue to make contacts with tract folks to look for new membership on the Board.

David Hopkins – David has noticed that the Board is primarily retired (older) people who have served their time on boards. He feels it is very hard to convince younger people (who are very busy) to volunteer for the Board. Also, in terms of membership and interest in the OFHA, there are folks from Lake of the Woods that are dealing directly with the NFHA and sending their money to that organization for the C2 effort. Thus the interest has waned for the local level organization.

It was suggested that perhaps OFHA should contact members who have previously served on the Board or as Officers to see if they would be willing to serve directly again.

Bill Kennedy – Bill noted that with his contacts in Washington State, they are also suffering with volunteering and donations because folks are responding more to the national efforts of the NFHA. He noted that we have supported having folks make direct donations to the NFHA for C2 and maybe that was a mistake, but it was the most direct way to get the support for the national efforts.

Additionally, Bill believes we need to hire an Executive Director to help with some of the day to day operations and tract contacts for OFHA; perhaps the organization would be able to attract officers from the outside. He has approached Washington State to see if they would like to share in the cost of this type of position, but so far has not been successful in getting a buy-in.

It was suggested that some of us go back to prior officers of OFHA and see if they would be willing to step up to the plate. Also, a few names were mentioned as folks to contact to see if they would be interested in coming back on the Board. Scott?? will contact Sharon Karr and Jean will contact John Gartland from Crescent Lake tract (others??) to see if he would be willing to come in as an officer (Pres or VP)

To do assignments:

Annual Meeting: Bill will talk with Scott about recruiting Metolius and/or Elk Lake Tracts to organize the annual meeting set for March, 2013 in the Bend area.

Recruiting members: Jean will contact John Garland, President of the Crescent Lake Homeowners Association to see if he would be willing to serve on the OFHA as President or Vice President of OFHA.

Scott will contact Sharon Karr (former OFHA Board member) to see if she would be interested in coming back on the OFHA Board.

Bill will continue to pursue finding someone to serve on the Board or as an Officer from the Mt Hood area. He will also look into what it would take to hire a part time Executive Director for the OFHA.

Newsletter: Jean will ask each of the Board members to submit a paragraph on why they feel the OFHA is important to the recreational cabin program in Oregon.

Membership database: Scott will send a copy of the updated data base to all of the Board members.

NOTE: Several members noted that they would like to see future (non annual conference) Board meetings set up as conference calls and possibly via Skype or a similar media. It would be possible to announce and hold additional meetings in this manner, as needed.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:19 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Baecher Brown, OFHA Secretary