NMNF minutes 201109

Present: Mike Schrad, Vicki VonLoh, Kevin Hendrix, Bob Wells, Bruce Clawson, Leslie Kwasnieski, Kristal Stoner, Andrea Faas, Matt Jones

Guests: Dennis Ferraro, Austen Hill. Absent: Sandy Douglas

The minutes from August 8, 2020 were approved. We talked about how many donations (+/-$7000) the butterfly book for Central Nebraska made and if a book for Eastern Nebraska would be feasible. Bob indicated he would speak to Joanne Langabee. Matt J updated us on the status of the 2021 calendars. UNL will print 300. Donations were received for 178 and 66 for photographers, total of 244 calendars. This leaves us some to use as extras. NMNP will cover $3000 from advertising account, $1200 will come from calendar fund from NMNF, and the foundation will need to cover the rest of expense for printing and mailing. Approximately $4705 was raised from calendar donations, final amount due from the NMNF is not exact at this time. Dennis noted that there will be no funds available from the next NET grant to use for calendars. We discussed doing 2022 calendars at this time and it was tabled for now. We talked about the possibility of doing a field guide/journal as a fund raiser. This was tabled until our next meeting. We went over grant information sheet that Mike sent out. Mike told the group that he and Vicki had met with Liz Lange, our grant writer, twice in the last two months and would be meeting with her again the first week in December. They talked about where we stood on current grant status and others we might pursue. So far we have spent $1450 out of $2500 we had allocated for grant writing.

November is considered our annual meeting. A motion was made and seconded and approved to continue the current slate of officers. Mike and Vicki stated they would stay and Sandy was too in absentia. Mike will let her know. We had discussion on adding a new NMNF board member, Mike McKenzie. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to add him. Mike will contact. Kevin asked if we had a gift acceptance policy. It was decided we did not. Kevin and Kristal will work on a draft. This will show how we will receive/solicit gifts. Bruce will send NMNF handbook to new members and update any member changes. Matt J said he is working on videos to be used by NMNP and that 4 should be ready soon.

Austen talked about the Junior Program. The Junior committee will be meeting within the next week or so about searching for hire for Junior Assistant, day to day activities, etc. We (NMNF and NMNP) want to make sure progress is made before the end of year so we can report back to Hubbard Foundation. Vicki said the current balance in bank was $36,908.30. We received the invoice from UNL for June 30, 2020 and that had been paid. We also received the invoice from them for December 31, 2020. Vicki said that most of the illegal credit card hacks had been stopped on our donation button on website. Dennis gave an overview of the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 NET grant request, which is primarily in support of the Junior Program. There were more in kind giving so than dollars from partners. Dennis also indicated that UNL has become more picky in how these funds are managed/tracked. Dennis also stated that in order to keep office at Hardin Hall in Lincoln, the Junior Assistant may need to work from there.

New business: Tim Olin has done a history of NMNP and it is posted under About Us on Website. Matt J and Vicki will work on first newsletter and use this as 1st edition. The newsletter should be published quarterly with input/photos from volunteers, NMNP, and NMNF. Meeting adjourned.

Action items to include leftovers.

Mike: update by laws

Bob: Director/board insurance costs

Vicki: minutes to website/donate button on facebook

Bob: check with on Eastern butterfly book

Vicki and Mike: profit and loss by December 1

Bruce: new member book

Austen: update on Junior Program after meeting with committee

Matt J and Vicki: newsletter

Kristal and Kevin: Gift acceptance policy