

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness
Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2017

ATTENDEES:

FENW: Currie Craven, Bill Betz, Ken Harper, Cyndi Koop, and George Resseguie

USFS: Cindy Ebbert

GUEST: Kate DeMorest

PROXIES: Frank Gutmann and Mike Mayrer to Currie Craven; Bill Reed to George Resseguie; Tim Drescher to Bill Betz

AGENDA AND MINUTES – Revised Agenda and Minutes were approved unanimously.

KATE DEMOREST – Cindy introduced Kate DeMorest who has expressed an interest in joining the FENW Board. Kate is a former USFS employee and has strong interest in Wilderness monitoring activities such as weed mitigation and trail maintenance projects (she has been a trail crew leader), and is a certified crosscut saw trainer. She also has experience is developing grant applications. Board Motion – **Ken moved and George seconded to appoint Kate to a position on the FENW Board. Motion passed unanimously. WELCOME KATE!**

TREASURER’S REPORT – Limited activity year-to-date. Forecasted bank balance at Feb 28 is \$28,352. Seven members’ dues received and A-Basin donation of \$1,047 has been received. The 2016 IRS Tax Return will be filed in March (Form 990EZ) **Motion to approve (Ken), second (Currie), passed unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS

Currie led a brief discussion of all of the old business items on the agenda. Highlights are as follows:

- USFS Meeting to Discuss Backcountry Uses and Overnight Camping – Meeting will be on March 2 at 5:30.
- Booth Creek – The Mountain School in Eagle County has adopted the trail. Maintenance work is planned this summer.
- Colorado Outward Bound Project (Eagle County) – Bill Reed following up; planned for Upper Piney on July 19.

WEBSITE & CYBER PRESENCE

Kay Hopkins (USFS Glenwood Springs) has submitted a draft for the next newsletter.

~~Beavers will be featured in the May edition~~ Future issues: Monitoring plans for ENW (C.Ebbert, April); Profile of a Wilderness Mgr. (M. Beach, May); Beavers in ENW (Elissa Knox, District Wildlife Mgr; June).

GRANTS/DONATIONS

- Colorado Gives – Focus in the First Quarter will be to establish a Profile for FENW. First step will be to provide a copy of the 2016 Tax Return (see above) that is required to receive login information necessary to begin work on the Profile; timing is March (George).
- National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance – Mike Beach will lead preparation of a grant request for \$2,668 that will provide support for FENW’s participation in a

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recreation site and solitude-monitoring project in the Missouri Lakes area in early September 2017. Application deadline is March 10.

TRAIL PROJECT PLANS

Summit County

- Cindy is finalizing a list of possible summer trail maintenance projects and will meet soon with Bill Reed to firm-up the plans. Tentatively, the plans will be similar to last year and include a Gateways project, collaborative National Trails Day event, and two overnight projects.
- Bill B. indicated that Conservation Colorado (Josh Kuhn) is interested in working with FENW on a weekend trail/campsite project.
- All agreed that effective advertising is key to support the trail projects. Also, funds should be allocated for 2017 projects.

Eagle County

- Ken plans to place more focus on trail maintenance projects, including 2 more trail projects.
- FENW will adopt Bighorn Trail this year; adopted Deluge Trail last year. To adopt a trail requires 6 days of trail work a year.
- Most of his volunteers are interested in trail maintenance projects/clearing trees. Not much interest in Volunteer Ranger type work.

Cross-Cut Saw Program

- Ken and “Jason” will get recertified in Eagle/Holy Cross.
- Cindy advised that Dillon Ranger District (DRD) is considering a volunteer training program/certification program. She is awaiting a response from the District Ranger.

USFS

- The recent hiring freeze for all government workers has been lifted. The application period has just been closed and the DRD will proceed with hiring. DRD has one seasonal and is going to ask for one more; also has 2 interns. They have 2 Trail Coordinators to work with RMYC and other groups.
- The 2017 Weed Mitigation program will focus more in Summit County. Cindy will get more details from Steve Elzinga. Kate has worked with Steve and will assist in planning and implementation.

NEW BUSINESS

FENW Board Evolution Planning – George will formally step down from the Board at the end of March. Key assignments to be completed are filing the IRS Tax Return and establishing the CoGives Profile. He will continue to liaison with the Board until a new secretary and treasurer are identified and trained. Bill B. will solicit interest in the March newsletter.

ADVOCACY

List of possible action items was discussed briefly.

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REVISIONS TO THE BY-LAWS TO REORGANIZE THE BOARD FUNCTIONS

Bill presented a motion (attached) to revise the Board structure as follows: officers shall include a President, an Immediate Past President, a President-Elect, a Treasurer and a Secretary. Officer terms will be established at 1 year. Secretary and Treasurer may be re-elected to their positions for one more year by a 2/3 vote of all Directors. ***Board Motion: Move to approve the Revision to the By-Laws with one minor change. Ken moved, Bill seconded; passed unanimously.***

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be at 5:30 on March 23 at the Eagles Nest Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
George Resseguie, Secretary/Treasurer

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ATTENDEES:

FENW: Currie Craven, Mike Mayrer, Bill Betz, Kate DeMorest, Tim Drescher, Frank Gutmann, Bill Reed, and George Resseguie

USFS: Cindy Ebbert

GUESTS: Jerry Kelly, Dan Siebert, and Chris Turner

PROXIES: Ken Harper to Currie Craven

AGENDA AND MINUTES –Agenda and February Minutes were approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Limited activity year-to-date. Forecasted bank balance at March 31 is \$28,245. The 2016 IRS Tax Return will be filed in March (Form 990EZ)

Motion to approve (Bill B.), second (Tim), passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- Public Education – Bill R. would like to address managed overnight camping in Eagles Nest. Will meet with USFS and gather data to develop a presentation.

WEBSITE & CYBER PRESENCE – no discussion.

GRANTS

- Colorado Gives – Focus in the First Quarter will be to establish a Profile for FENW. First step will be to provide a copy of the 2016 Tax Return (see above) that is required to receive login information necessary to begin work on the Profile; timing is the end of March (George).
- National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance – Grant application for a project in Missouri Lakes has been submitted (\$2,668); funding will support FENW’s participation in a project in the Missouri Lakes areas. NWSA decision is expected at the end of March.
- NEEF Project – Bill B. working on a first draft. Focus will be on capacity building. Application deadline is April 12.

USFS

- Hiring – The recent hiring freeze for all government workers has been lifted and 350 applications (!) will be processed. DRD has one seasonal and is going to ask for one more; also has 2 interns. They have 2 Trail Coordinators to work with RMYC and other groups.
- Crosscut Saw Training – Cindy advised that the Dillon Ranger District (Bill Jackson) has approved crosscut saw training and certification for volunteers. Training plans are being organized for May; other than a VOC plan to do some local training, further details are TBD. Kate is an experienced trainer. Ken and “Jason” will get recertified in Eagle/Holy Cross.
- Weeds – There will be 2 “Weed Experts” (funding assistance provided by Denver Water) assigned to the Dillon Ranger District for the 2017 Weed Mitigation program.
- Overnight Camping Regulation – Cindy is continuing to work on a series of controls for overnight camping, such as mandatory registration (a permit will not be required). Implementation will require a new USFS Regulation. Roll-out is planned for 2018.

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NEW BUSINESS

New Members

Three potential members attended the meeting and expressed an interest in joining the Board; each provided a brief “bio”.

- Jerry Kelly – Jerry lives in Silverthorne and is a volunteer wilderness ranger. Loves to hike and bike.
- Dan Siebert – Dan lives in Eagle County and has worked with FENW on numerous trail projects. Loves the outdoors and accompanies Tim on his forays into the Wilderness.
- Chris Turner – Chris ~~will be working with the new REI store in Dillon. He~~ is a long-time CO native and ~~has recently moved to Frisco with his wife, who is working to open the new REI store in Dillon plans to move up from Denver.~~

Bill B. wants to review the by-laws to determine whether changes are needed before adding more new Board members. He suggested that we should decide on the best number of board members, that we should ask candidates to submit a biosketch, and that we should draft a document describing duties and expectations of board members.

REI Involvement with FENW (Chris Turner)

- Will have a grand opening outdoor social May 5-7. Encouraging participation of non-profits to set up a kiosk/information table in their parking lot. Bill B. volunteered to lead the effort and asked for volunteers to help. **Board Motion: Authorize Bill Betz to spend up to \$500 to set up the display, obtain informational materials, etc. George moved, Mike second, passed unanimously.**
- REI intends to be involved with groups like FENW through grants, participation with outdoor projects and the like.

Deluge Lake Cabin (Tim)

Tim discussed the status of the “Deluge Lake Cabin” that is an inholding surrounded by Wilderness. He will ask Mike Beach to research possible actions for FENW.

CO Public Lands Day (Tim)

Celebration will be on Saturday May 20. A website (copubliclandsday.com) provides details. Currie will write an essay for the FENW newsletter.

ADVOCACY

- Bikes in the Wilderness (Cindy) – efforts should be put on hold. The Travel Mgmt Plan prohibits “fat bike” use in the Wilderness. USFS is waiting for a proposal from a fat bike user group.
- Public Lands Transfers (Currie) – hot topic now; need to develop a plan for FENW action(s).
- National Monument Designations (Currie) – to be discussed at the CO Public Lands Day.
- Wilderness Society (Currie) – Society opposes the proposed public lands transfers; need to develop a plan for FENW action(s).

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- Joint Forces with other groups (Currie) – to be discussed at CO Public Lands Day.
- Grazing in the Wilderness (Frank) – Cindy provided an internet link; Frank will review a recent article in the Summit Daily and provide a report-out at next mtg.

OTHER

Wilderness Leaders Conference – Tim is planning to attend the Conference in Buena Vista on Oct 27-29. After attending last year, he has spoken highly of it for networking and advocacy opportunities.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be at 5:30 on April 27 at the Eagles Nest Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
George Resseguie, Secretary/Treasurer

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness

Planning Meeting

April 27th, 2017

Eagles Nest Community Center

Minutes by: Tim Drescher

Action items

Events

Attendees:

FENW Board: John 'Currie' Craven, George Resseguie, Kate Demorest, Frank Gutmann, Bill Betz, Tim Drescher, Bill Reed, Mike Mayrer, Ken Harper

USFS: Cindy Ebbert, Mike Beach

Guests: Cindy Cyndi Koop, Jerry Kelly (There are several mentions of "Cindy Koop" that need to be corrected)

Proxies: N/A

Review/Approve Agenda: George passed out a handout with March meeting minutes as amended from the last meeting (highlighted in yellow). Bill moved to approve, Frank second. Motion passed to approve March minutes and the April agenda.

Review/Approve Treasurer's Report: No major changes. Balance of \$28,350.03 as of 3/31/2017 - Projected to be at \$27,651.03 as of 4/30/17. Bill B motion to approve, Tim second.

New Business Relating to Volunteer Rangrs Rangers (moved up on the agenda): Cindy K will be resigning as the Summit Wilderness Ranger Volunteer Coordinator with FENW. Cindy will pass the torch to Mike this summer. Cindy will help Mike throughout this next year with the transition to this position.

Thank you for your decade of service Cindy! Bill Betz raised an action item to come up with a "report out" for lessons learned as the coordinator. This will help future FENW planning efforts and retain some knowledge related to her position. Bill will conduct an interview with Cindy to document her experience.

Mike will resign from the board as part of this transition so that he can focus strictly with the Volunteer Wilderness Ranger program. Questions were raised as to who ideally could train under Mike with the intention to succeed him in two years.

mmayerfenw@gmail.com is Mike's new email address for FENW related correspondence.

The Annual FENW/FDRD Joint Trail Hosting day will take place on July 8th this year. Rangers from both groups will staff trailheads in Summit County to meet and greet visitors.

Cindy E announced that the policy of wearing hard hats while doing ranger patrols is now under the discretion of the ranger. The hardhat requirement came about because of the pine beetle kill tree dangers while doing patrols. This applies to trail patrols only! If you have a tool in the hand, doing trail maintenance, or hiking to do trail maintenance a hardhat is still required. This new rule also only applies for the Dillon Ranger District.

There will be two training dates for returning Volunteer Wilderness Rangers on May 16th and 25th in Summit County. There will also be Volunteer Wilderness Ranger training on June 3rd on the Eagle County side. An article to solicit interest in the program will appear in the Vail Daily.

Ken announced some very tragic news that Don Bissit (sp?) died in a snorkeling accident in Mexico (Eagle County Volunteer Wilderness Ranger). Don had been a ranger for quite a few years.

Ken also announced Jason Bose (sp?) is moving to Vermont. Jason has been Ken's mate on the other side of the cross-cut saw for a number of years now.

Old Business:

Discussion on public education

Bill Reed has agreed to be the point of contact person on the USFS process to require permit registration in Eagles Nest Wilderness.

Cindy Koop will send out an email with training dates. May 8th and May 18th and June 7th (Mikes house). Ken Harper will be setting up training dates on the Eagle County side. Can't recall what this is for...

Missouri Lakes Project: a reality

The grant was rewarded for the Missouri Lakes project and Tim reached out and reserved September 14th and 17th for Paragon Guides to pack-in supplies. Four llamas and two guides will be dispatched. Tim, Mike B and Ken will begin the recruiting effort for this project and Tim will create a signup sheet to keep track for those willing to commit to the project. FENW will also be purchasing two GPS units as part of the grant.

Colorado Public Lands Day

Slated for May 20th, Currie discussed the possibility of having a joint event with REI, and possibly the local Sierra Club chapter (FDRD has a previous commitment). Currie asked if there was an interest in coordinating this event. As of now, FENW will not officially be partaking in any Public Lands Day events.

REI support, point person (s)

Bill Betz reported that the new REI store will be holding a big opening weekend event where local non-profit wills have chance to set up a table at the REI store. Thursday – Sunday, May 4-7. There will be soft opening Thursday evening from 6-8:30 pm, and then Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning the public facing grand opening will take place. Bill and Kate can attend Thursday and Friday, but will not be able to do be there on Saturday and Sunday. Frank then volunteered to man the table Saturday and Sunday. Currie will provide tables and chairs. Kate brought up the topic of what our main core mission for what we are expressing to the public during this event. The group consented on handing out our list of events & trail projects, recruiting members, and volunteers, and having a signup sheet available for people to subscribe to the newsletter. Bill B will coordinate the event and send out a sign-up sheet for those interested in participating.

Bighorn Cabin

The USFS has a request from the owner of the private inholding in the Bighorn drainage to rebuild the very old mining cabin right off the trail. It sounds as though that their intention is to use the cabin as more of friendly refuge for weary travelers. There are rumors of a TV show that has interest in filming the rebuild. The owners of the inholding own around 70 acres in the Bighorn drainage. USFS would like to also explore the option of buying the structure and the encompassing land as another option.

By-Law review, re: new BOD members

Bill B brought up the idea of creating an official form for those interested in joining the board, with a summary of interest for joining. Bill also sent out an email with a draft document on March 25th that detailed a list of expectations for those interested in joining the board. Bill Betz will send out this document to the board yet again and will field responses over the following week, and then the board will vote on the proposal during the next meeting on May 25th.

FENW Evolution

Board turnover and succession; job descriptions for the secretary and the treasurer. George explained roles and responsibilities of both the secretary and treasurer. George encouraged the board to keep FENW enrolled in Colorado Gives Day. Roughly four hours a month a piece would need to be devoted for both the treasurer and secretary

for ongoing, "regular" work. ~~Bill B has volunteered to take on the position of treasurer,~~ and Jerry Kelly has expressed an interest in the Treasurer's responsibilities, and Tim has volunteered to take a look at the prospect of becoming treasurer. **Frank made a motion to release the traffic counters over to the USFS, George seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.** Bill Reed will take responsibly for maintaining the tool shed. George also brought up the fact that we will need Frank, Bill R or Mike M to open the doors to FENW for planning meetings as these three individuals all live in the 'Eagles Nest' Community.

Cross cut class

Kate Demorest and Mike Beach are responsible for planning the cross-cut training event on May 31st to June 2nd. They are able to take five more people in this class. The first day they will meet at the Minturn Town Hall, and then move to the field the last two days. Kate will coordinate the signup and she would like to solidify the list by May 10th. The Volunteer Wilderness Ranger Coordinators will reach out to their contacts for people who have expressed previous interest. This training is best for people who are available, safely conscious and who would be interested in eventually teaching.

Website and cyber presence:

Special Newsletter

Currie will be writing an article for the Public Lands Day. Expect to see this special newsletter to be sent out in the middle of May.

Instagram, Bill B.

We are now on Instagram!

Tim Drescher's Wilderness backpacking website is www.timdcy.com

Grants:

Colorado Gives Day

George will take care of FENW enrollment this month as one of his last remaining duties as treasurer. This will be done by May 31st.

NEEF

Bill Betz stated that we will hear in early June whether or not we have been rewarded this grant.

USFS:

Mike announced that there are eight Wilderness rangers this summer working out of the Holy Cross RD.

Projects:

Conservation Colorado (CC) and The Wilderness Society (TWS), Bill Reed gave copies of the schedule for everyone.

Next Planning Meeting

The next board meeting will be at 17:30 on May 25th

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness

Planning Meeting

June 22nd, 2017

Dillon / Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger Districts (Video Conference Call)

Minutes by: Tim Drescher

Attendees:

FENW Board: John 'Currie' Craven, George Resseguie, Kate Demorest, Frank Gutmann, Bill Betz, Tim Drescher, Mike Mayrer, Ken Harper, Dan Siebert

USFS: Cindy Ebbert, Mike Beach

Proxies: None assigned by Jerry Kelly or Chris Turner

Review / Approve Agenda:

Ken made a motion to approve the June agenda, George seconded. ***Motion passed to approve the June agenda.*** No minutes provided from the May meeting. ***Election of three new members (Jerry Kelly, Chris Turner & Dan Siebert) was the only action item from the May 2017 meeting.***

Review/Approve Treasurer's Report:

\$1,032 in checks contributed to FENW this past month. Budget balance of \$28,070 is projected for the end of June.

George and Ken spoke about the Treasurer's role. Ken has agreed to become the interim treasurer after speaking with George before the meeting. George will volunteer to be the book-keeper going forward. George spoke about the need for FENW to decide where to go forward with the PO Box, bank accounts and the treasures report. ***Frank moved to include Ken to be the interim Treasurer and Bill seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

New Board Candidate Letter:

Discussion going forward to review Bill Betz's email suggestions for new board member documents. Board will take a third time to review documents and then vote at the next board meeting.

Overnight Wilderness Use:

Cindy: Goal for Mike and her would be to setup required registration implementation to start next summer in Eagles Nest. This is the first step for the required permit system for overnight use in Wilderness; similar to the model being implemented on the Maroon Bells side. Volunteer ranger counts are very helpful for the USFS keeping track of human population numbers as well.

USFS will be counting on FENW for public outreach and possible grant writing for the permit forms. FENW will wait to hear from USFS for when they have an idea of what all will be needed from their end.

Missouri Lake Campsite Inventory and Monitoring Study:

Tim gave an update to the group. We have sixteen people now registered for this project. Tim reached out to Paragon guides and found that Paragon will not charge FENW an extra cost for splitting the group into two and sending one group to the Missouri drainage and one to the Fancy drainage. It is our hope that we will be able to move the study into Upper Cross Creek, and even down towards Harvey Lake. Dan will look into the purchase of these units at a “pro-deal” rate.

Monthly Newsletter:

Newsletter for next month by Josh Kuhn is in queue. [Dave Shimel will write about global warming for August.](#) Julie Mach at Colorado Mountain Club will write a piece on Federal National Monument reviews for September.

Tim and Frank will get contact information over to Bill for a possible monthly guest column in the Summit & Vail Daily's.

Ken will get Adopt-a-Trail dates for FENW's work on Deluge out so we can advertise on social media

Grants:

George will work with Mike from FDRD to get started on Colorado gives day material.

Patagonia grant, Bill Betz: Grant is due by the end of August. Bill is not asking for FENW approval for support of this campaign. He is asking to submit the grant application for FENW first, and then if we do end up getting rewarded the grant, and FENW decides not to support, he will give the money back.

Talk of other grant potential for next year. Cindy will work on grant ideas for next year. Summit Foundation grants to keep in mind along with Rocky Mountain youth core teams. Cindy will try and come up with a wish list items to be sent out sometime (hopefully) in July.

USFS Updates:

Training for new USFS employees completed as of last week. Kickoff for the summer is in full swing. Cindy gave full update of where Summit trail crews are heading this summer and fall. Much of the same for Mike on the Eagle county side with the completion of training. It's GO time!

Volunteer Wilderness Rangers:

Trail updates from volunteer wilderness rangers? Is this something we could share with the entire group?

June 3rd was training for incoming Volunteer Wilderness Rangers. Eleven new volunteer wilderness rangers in total got trained. We continue to see more and more younger people interested in this cause.

July 8th is the annual FENW/FDRD trailhead hosting day. Sounds like many trailheads will be staffed this year. Ken will have several volunteers who will sit, mainly at booth creek TH during the weekends to speak with hikers entering in the Wilderness. Two volunteers had knee replacements so this will be a great fit for them this summer.

New Business:

Discussion around board meeting (planning meetings) time and locations. The decision was made to keep the format of 17:30, on the fourth Thursday of the month. Our first video conference has been successful, so we will try this format at the two USFS office locations going forward.

Clarification to Kate's role with USFS was brought to light, and clear. She is a private employee of the VVMBA, so she's still eligible to be on the board.

Renewal notices for people to pay membership dues is not happening. Need to revisit at the next board meeting to formulate ideas and solutions.

Bill motioned to add FENW's name to the list of supporters of the Continental Divide Wilderness and Recreation Act (CDWRA). George seconded and the motion passed. Tim will make sure our name gets added to the list ASAP.

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness

Planning Meeting

July 27th, 2017

Dillon / Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger Districts (Video Conference Call)

Minutes by: Tim Drescher

Attendees:

FENW Board: John 'Currie' Craven, Kate Demorest, Frank Gutmann, Bill Betz, Tim Drescher, Ken Harper, Jerry Kelly

Guests: Karn Stiegelmeier (Summit County Commissioner)

USFS: Cindy Ebbert, Mike Beach

Proxies: Dan Siebert proxy to Tim Drescher, Chris Turner proxy to Bill Betz

Review / Approve Minutes:

Bill motioned to approve the June minutes, Jerry Seconded. ***Motion passed to approve the June Minutes.***

Review / Approve Agenda:

Ken made a motion to approve the June agenda, George seconded. ***Motion passed to approve the July agenda.***

Karn Stiegelmeier Update / Renaming the Gore Range:

-There is an effort amongst a number of people to rename the Gore Range. October 9th is Indigenous People's Day, where the renaming group will announce the campaign to rename the Range.

Lord Gore was in fact considered to be quite the bad guy. George Gore slaughtered thousands of bison, elk, deer, bears, etc... Things were named quickly during the early days. Naming criteria back then were nowhere near what they are today. Gore never set foot inside the heart of the Gore Range. He did come as close as the Kremmling area. One candidate for a replacement name would be "Shining Mountains" - Ute translation, but looking for maybe something more specific. Oct. 9 event will be held in Summit County at the Community and Senior Center in Frisco. They will unveil their wish to change the name then. Karn would love to have our support.

The goal is to simply just change the name of the Range. Not an effort to make people change their "Gore" names. Gore creek, and everything around the Gore name would / could stay the exact same. ***Tim made a motion to add our support for this effort, Bill seconded and the motion passed.***

Review/Approve Treasurer's Report:

See attached treasurers report. ***Motion to accept the report by Bill, Jerry seconded. Motion passed.***

New Board Member Discussion:

New Treasurer position, Ken brought up George's recommendation. ***Bill moved to add Ken and Tim as signatories, and keep George as temporary signer, Tim seconded. Motion passed.*** Frank will volunteer to go to Post Office box and pick up FENW mail at the Frisco location.

No thoughts as to new permanent board treasurer.

New Board Candidate Letter:

Tim and Ken support the letter. ***Tim made a motion to approve the candidate letter. Kate seconded. Motion passed.***

Overnight registration:

Hoping to get in the NEPA review per Cindy and Mike with support from their line officers.

Missouri Lakes update:

Garmin GPS update from Dan in his email notes. We should know whether or not we will be receiving the units directly from Garmin by the end of August. 17 people signed up so far including Kate and four USFS employees.

Website and Cyber Presence:

August newsletter on Global warming coming up. Zinke National Monument in September. Updated print article in the Vail Daily. Global warming with a global emphasis. Need to get into paper(s) if we can. If Bikes in Wilderness article gets run in the Summit Daily, make sure to change the title!

Grants / USFS Updates:

Trying to get extra Rocky Mountain Youth Core weeks for trail maintenance. Could use a few more weeks next summer. Allocate funds where the funds are raised. NFF is giving a lot of money, but is trying to spread the uses for it much more.

Look for money to help strengthen Rocky Mountain Youth Core participation.

EPIC Promise Grants + Friends of Eagles Nest Wilderness =Terrific Opportunity

USFS Updates:

We could consider putting out registration boxes before final NEPA process is complete for Eagles Nest.

Busy trail season. Four Wilderness rangers going to Wheeler Lake with FENW (Bill Reed) today. Traffic counters out (ten of them) on Summit County side. Trail clearing and weed spraying up Slate Creek last Friday.

Cindy still working on grant ideas for the upcoming cycle.

Upper Piney trail work was a success. Kids were good hard workers and are excited to do a similar project next year. Ken will go up again in about another month to see how things have progressed since then.

Over 1000 volunteer hours so far on the Adopt a Trail program this year.

Kate announced that she will be working with Bill Reed to take over his portion of the Stewardship projects going forward. Great news!

The owners of the Bighorn Creek mining cabin have been bringing horses up the trail for restoration work of the private cabin. This effort will be featured on HGTV. Their intention is for the public to safely use it. USFS has reported that the owners and people doing the work have been doing a great job and are good people to work with.

USFS is constantly surprised by the number of people using the trails in East Vail based on traffic counter data.

Volunteer Wilderness Rangers:

Tim Mckennie letter to FENW conversation:

Context was troubling, as stated in the emails. We have not had any similar comments or feedback in the past. Jerry will follow up with Mike Mayrer to see if Tim M. had a response and what the response was, if the email bounced, etc...

Advocacy:

The meeting had to be cut short due to time, and Tim's update on Slate Lakes was not addressed (signage, bridge over creek). Tim's Josh Kuhn updates were not addressed in the meeting either.

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness

Planning Meeting

August 24th, 2017

Dillon / Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger Districts (Video Conference Call)

Minutes by: Tim Drescher

Attendees:

FENW Board: John 'Currie' Craven, Kate Demorest, Frank Gutmann, Bill Betz, Tim Drescher, Dan Siebert, Mike Mayrer

USFS: Cindy Ebbert, Mike Beach

Absent: Chris Turner, Jerry Kelly, Ken Harper

Review / Approve Minutes:

Frank motioned to approve the July minutes, Bill Seconded. ***Motion passed to approve the July Minutes.***

Review / Approve Agenda:

Bill made a motion to approve the August agenda, Frank seconded. ***Motion passed to approve the August agenda.***

Review / Approve Treasurer's Report:

-Tim gave the treasurer's report for Ken in his absence.

Balance as of 7/31/17 = \$30,223.05

Projected balance @ 8/31/17 = \$28,917.46

Motion to accept the report by Bill, Dan seconded. Motion passed.

New Treasurer Position:

George is going to continue to volunteer as treasurer and pick up the mail. Currie suggested to continue as is for the time being. Discussion is tabled until Ken gets back.

Eagles Nest Voluntary Overnight Registration:

Both Districts appear to be 100% behind the Eagles Nest Voluntary overnight resignations.

Garmin GPS update:

Dan needs our tax ID # in order to order the units through Garmin grant program.

Missouri Lakes Campsite Monitoring Project:

Tim will get back with John LaConte (Vail Daily) to ask about the article on Missouri Lakes work project, so we can potentially get an article in the paper.

Website and Cyber Presence:

We were able to run the 'Bikes in Wilderness' article and the 'Global Warming' article in the two Daily's.

Julie Mach's article on National Monuments in the newsletter is coming up for September.

Grants:

October 15th is the deadline for Wilderness Steward grant (reference Mike Beach's email).

Bill Betz will assist with Summit Foundation grant. Mike Beach will meet next Tuesday to formulate ideas for grants. This ties into the Wilderness scoring criteria. NWSA grant and EPIC promise grant possibilities.

Forest Service Updates:

Cindy: Status quo with field implementation. Two field interns left recently. Cataract Bridge replacement coming up during the end of September. Trying to keep it a small, core group of people, however they will need people for traffic control.

Mike: Similar comments to Cindy in regards to a successful summer season so far. Wilderness crew is on the tail end of their campsite inventory project for the summer.

Having a great year. Ended up completing nearly all of Holy Cross Wilderness campsite monitoring this summer. The crew certainly outperformed themselves.

Work Projects:

We haven't gotten any word from Bill Reed on his projects or reviews on how things have gone.

Frank gave an update on the Acorn Creek project, update was already on Facebook.

Slate Creek bridge discussion: USFS knows about the severely defunct bridge. The bridge became impassable this past year. Signage discussion around Slate.

Volunteer Wilderness Rangers:

The volunteer program has had another good year. October 16th is annual appreciation party for volunteers.

National Forest trails, not just Wilderness trails. George and Ken are interested in training rangers in the future to not only cover our Wilderness areas, but National Forest trails as well. Tim brought into question the argument that non-Wilderness trails should not be our priority. Bill agreed.

New Business:

Membership: What is a member?

Frank made a motion to form a committee to answer some of the tough questions for membership and what it entails. Frank and Mike volunteered to be on the committee.

Annual Meeting:

Ratify acts of the board is what the annual board meeting is for. We need to decide Annual Board Meeting details. Bill Betz volunteered to create a Doodle poll to in order to see when people were available to attend an annual meeting.

Currie will check on the "Frisco Center" for availability for the meeting. Discussion was made about Mike and Tim will doing a recap of the MO Lakes campsite inventory trip.

SCHEDULE CHANGE: Tuesday, September 26th 2017 was decided to be the date for the next board meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness

Planning Meeting Minutes

26 September 2017

Dillon Ranger District Office, Silverthorne

5:41 PM Roll call/Introductions:

Attendees: Currie Craven (CC), Bill Betz (BB), Cindy Ebbert (CE), Ken Harper (KH); Kate Demorest (KD), Chris Turner (CT), Mike Beach (MB), Dan Siebert (DS), Frank Gutmann (FG).

Agenda approved; Minutes approved (BB moved/DS 2nd)

Treasurer's report: \$28,204 in bank; discussion of adjustments to budget for Missouri Lakes project (which was ended a day early due to bad weather). What to do with leftover money?

Nothing, ask NWSA for advice.

Old business:

1. Annual meeting: Monday, November 13. A lengthy discussion led to a suggestion by KD (BB moved, FG 2nd, passed), namely that the program comprise presentations by various FENW people summarizing 2017 accomplishments. CC will organize venue, food; KD will arrange program (topics (progress reports by FENW), timing, powerpoint); BB will publicize in newsletters, website, facebook. When details are set, CC or KD will send details to BB for posting. CT suggested that the event be split into two parts - business meeting and program. CC will lead the business meeting part of the event - election of Board members. They will then elect officers. CE suggested creating a brochure to send out by email; CT agreed to create brochure, although with the other announcements planned, the utility of this is not entirely clear, particularly because we do not have "members" separated from the 600 newsletter recipients.

2. Website: BB reported on upcoming newsletters: October (Rename the Gore Range) and November (Bighorn Creek cabin). The Vail Daily gave us a bump in website visits when it published Tim Drescher's (updated) newsletter essay. The Summit Daily published Dave Schimel's newsletter essay, but despite written requests well ahead of time from BB and Tim Drescher, they failed to acknowledge us as the source.

3. Grants:

a. CE & BB will write a proposal for the 10/18 deadline to the Summit Foundation. It will request support for Rocky Mtn Youth Corps crews in 2018.

b. CE suggested that we apply to NWSA. A 1:1 match is required, with preference given to cash matches. Topic: Must be WSP criteria, of which two are relevant: education (we need more time to do this one; save it for 2018) or weeds. CE suggests weeds, with Wilderness targets in both Eagle & Summit counties. A contractor will be hired to spray with stock (\$1K/day; minimum \$5K). CE suggested asking NWSA for \$2.5K, with a \$2.5K FENW cash match (*this was favored, but I have no record of a motion, 2nd, or vote taken*). CC is FENW point person for the application. Finally, CE and MB would like FENW people to play a larger role in the writing of grant applications, and not merely be a signatory organization to applications that they prepare.

c. Colorado Gives: no news. KH reported that George Resseque will create our profile and Mike Connolly will "train" us in the application process. KH will follow up.

4. USFS

a. CE reported that the summer season/year is wrapping up. Her interns and Rangers have left, although Wilderness Ranger Anne is staying through the autumn. On Tuesday, 10/1, the crane will be placed in readiness for the bridge replacement on Cataract Creek. The Lost Lake turnpike is done.

b. MB reported that 2.5 weeks of crew work remain. The Holy Cross campsite inventory is complete: about 800 campsites total were counted. The Missouri Lakes project, which had to be aborted early because of weather, was subsequently completed.

5. Projects. KH reported on the Missouri Lakes project - work Thursday PM, all day Friday, out on Saturday morning. His team of 3 examined about 40 campsites. Overall, the crew obliterated 50-70 illegal campfire rings, as KH's back testifies.

6. Membership: FG presented a two page draft letter that solicits dues (\$25), to be sent by post to the ~200 people for whom we have physical addresses (George Resseque has this database). Discussion followed, leading to the suggestion that a more detailed account of FENW projects be included, like the hardcopy newsletters sent semi-annually up until 2015 (see <http://www.fenw.org/img/2015newsletter.pdf> for the last one). These raised (according to George Resseque) about \$5K annually (5-10 times more than by online solicitations since 2015). CT offered to have the newsletter update printed (in color) for no cost to FENW. BB will guide preparation the document, aiming for a January mailing.

7. VWRs: KH announced details of the Ranger Appreciation Party: Monday, October 2, Shrine Pass, Jay's Hut, 5PM, RSVPs appreciated, CE's interns and Rangers are invited, too; Qdoba is catering again; BB will put announcement, map on website (VWR page). Fun prizes will be awarded, like last year.

8. Adjournment 7:15 PM. Next meeting: Thursday, October 26, 5:30 PM, same venue
Respectfully submitted,
Bill Betz

ENHOA Community Center

5:35 PM Roll call/Introductions: Attendees: Ken Harper (KH), Bill Betz (BB), Chris Turner (CT), Frank Gutmann (FG), and by phone: Dan Siebert (DS), Tim Drescher (TD).

Minutes approved (BB moved/DS 2nd)

Treasurer's report: \$29,225 in the bank. Past month: Expenses \$407 (gift card); Receipts \$1121 (\$180 dues; \$85 Kroger; \$856 A Basin)

Expressions of thanks to George Resseguie for allowing us to use the ENHOA Community Center for our meeting today.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Annual meeting: Date **Thu Nov 30** because both Currie and KH can attend (BB moved, 2nd TD, passed unan.). TD asked about venue. He felt that we should not use a special venue, that there was little hope of attracting a significant crowd. He suggested DRD (and HXRD only as a backup for Eagle County board members, in case of poor weather). TD suggested that we combine the November monthly meeting with the Annual meeting (first monthly, then Annual). KH said that in past years (before 2015) 10-15 non board people have attended, and suggested an email announcement be sent to those on the list of 'members' that George Resseguie kept (n=~150 people). BB will draft an email and send to KH for editing. TD asked about food - suggested having a meal; KH said that we can afford that. Currie had agreed earlier to arrange food, and it was hoped that he would do the same for this meeting. CT inquired about EtOH - not allowed in USFS (perhaps a parking lot warmup?). BB suggested adding a 3rd meeting at which the board elects officers (especially the new president) to follow immediately the other two (DS moved, 2nd TD, passed unan.). Further discussion included the following: it was thought that a secret ballot for officers would be appropriate; it was suggested that if you want to nominate someone, first secure his/her approval and then send an email in advance of the meeting explaining intent to nominate and explaining why (qualities of nominee); if DRD is not available (e.g., Cindy Ebbert not attending), then we inquire about ENHOA Community Center; it was thought that a 5:30 pm starting time would be good.

2. Grants:

a. Weed grant: Cindy Ebbert's original suggestion (see minutes from 170926) was an application to NWSA for weed mitigation on the east side of ENW. That deadline (10/15) has passed; no application was submitted. KH described another potential source (NFF) - application is due in Jan 2018. NFF is the source of 8 grants received by John Taylor. FG expressed concern that the funds be managed for use on the east side of ENW (Steve Elzinger is the USFS weed rep, but works out of the HCRD office). John Pickering is the sprayer of choice. KH will follow up with Cindy Ebbert to determine the optimal route forward.

b. Rocky Mtn Youth Corps hire: BB reported on the TSF application for a RMYC crew for 2 weeks, submitted 10/18. Cindy Ebbert was the prime mover, George Resseguie spent a lot of time putting the budget together, and BB wrote most of the narrative. We should hear the result in late December. NOTE: The application says that 100% of the board members have joined/donated to FENW. **BOARD MEMBERS: PLEASE BE CERTAIN THAT YOU HAVE JOINED/DONATED IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS. DO THIS BEFORE DEC 1.**

c. Colorado Gives: KH will follow up with George Resseguie.

d. Archive: DS suggested that there be an easily accessible, central repository of archival materials such as grant applications, minutes of meetings, by-laws, and so forth. A discussion ensued about the best method. BB can do it on the website; DS suggested an external hard drive; CT suggested a Google Cloud Platform. FG said that John Taylor had erased all but one of his 9 grants (8 to NFF), and that perhaps we could get copies of them from NFF.

e. FENW expenses to TD & wife to attend the Colorado Wilderness Gathering in Palisade Oct 28-29 (they attended the inaugural meeting last year, and found is highly useful). It was unanimously agreed that a majority of the board had voted to pay their expenses again this year.

3. Website: BB reported on the October newsletter ("Rename the Gore Range") and the Oct 9 Indigenous Peoples Day meeting organized by Karn Stiegelmeier (see <http://www.fenw.org/rename-gore->

[range/](#) for links). Currie gave an opening talk, BB & Joan Betz staffed an FENW table, and FG and Mike Mayrer helped out. The November newsletter will feature an article by the owners of the Bighorn Creek cabin, who have made an extraordinarily generous gesture by renovating it and leaving it open to all - Friends of ENW in the truest sense, particularly given the greed of others who own inholdings in Wildernesses (e.g., Tom Chapman).

NEW BUSINESS:

1. TD asked if anyone had followed up with Bruce Field, an extraordinary candidate who submitted an application to become a VWR. KH will remind Mike Mayrer to write a welcoming note to him, and copy to the officers.

2. DS inquired about an email master list. CT suggested that it's easy to have people send their emails to 'master@fenw.org' and that it will be forwarded to the list. CT said that our internet service provider (InMotionHosting) should be able to do that. BB will try to create such an account and report back.

3. FG sparked a vigorous and enthusiastic discussion. He expressed an urgent need for FENW to have a work session/workshop/retreat that is moderated by an experienced facilitator, sometime in the coming months. TD opined that it should not be difficult to identify such a facilitator, and suggested that this should be an early item for the new officers to be elected in November. DS concurred. CT thought it too early to do now; KH said post 11/30 the new board should address it; DS & CT concurred.

DS hopes that a trail work plan for 2018 will be forthcoming (from Kate Demorest).

4. FG suggested that FENW work with Tom Koehler (Doozy Martin colleague) to help him create a coalition of outdoor groups, especially with a calendar that groups post on, to minimize conflicting dates. FG will follow up with Doozy and Tom.

5. FG reported on the annual Tool Shed cleanup - 4 FDRD employees and 2 volunteers (including FG) showed up. This was an agenda item at a previous FENW meeting, but was not discussed; BB posted the notice on the FENW website. No report followed the event; FG will write one and send it to BB for posting on facebook.

6. DS described how he keeps an idea book, where he jots down new ideas. He would like to have a method for disseminating and discussing these (beyond submitting agenda items). For example, he wonders about FENW granting small (\$300-400) scholarships to students (high school, CMC) for projects such as an essay about wilderness, or a redesign of the FENW logo (favored by TD). KH suggested that we look at the need to maintain a balance of \$25K in our account; it has been "just sitting there" since he joined the board 7 years ago. He wonders how VVMBA used GoFundMe to raise \$50K. CT suggest that we have a central repository not just for archival information, but for dynamic discussion of ideas. CT will write a proposal to do this. DS suggested that we identify 15-20 people of interest to FENW and send to them a list of questions (much like BB is doing for the December newsletter by Joel Gratz of OpenSnow). DS agreed to assemble a list of candidates to be contacted.

7. It was requested that BB include in the minutes a review of the new by-laws. Here it is: In Feb 2017 the board voted unanimously to change its structure of officers. Instead of President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer with no term limits, we will move to a system based on that of the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers. The Secretary and Treasurer positions are not changed. The Vice President position is abolished. The President serves just one year, after which s/he becomes Immediate Past President (IPP) for one year. A new position - President-Elect - is elected each year, and then becomes President, and then IPP in successive years. BB suggested that, at the November 30 meeting, we NOT elect a President-Elect, but wait until the new President has an opportunity to express her/his opinion, given that the President and President-Elect must work closely together, especially during the first year of the new administrative structure. Rolls of officers: The President-Elect acts much as the vice president did (e.g., presiding in the absence of the President). The IPP "serves in an advisory capacity to the current President" (new by-laws).

8. Adjournment 7:10 PM. (FG moved, 2nd BB, passed unan.)

Next meeting: Thursday, November 30, 5:30 PM, DRD only (not HCRD)

Respectfully submitted, Bill Betz

**Friends of Eagles Nest Wilderness
Planning Meeting & Annual Meeting (Combined)
November 30, 2017
Eagles Nest Homeowner Association Clubhouse**

Attendees:

FENW Board: Bill Betz, Ken Harper, Dan Siebert, Tim Drescher, Mike Mayrer, Frank Gutmann, Kate Demorest, Jerry Kelly, Currie Craven, (Absent: Chris Turner)

Guests: Maryann Gaug, Bob Theodore

USFS: Ken Roy Waugh

Introductions:

Individual introductions of attendees went around the table

Review / Approve Minutes:

Tim made a motion to approve the October meeting minutes, Jerry seconded. ***Motion passed to approve the July Minutes.***

Treasurers Report

The projected bank balance as of 11/30/2017 is \$31,279. Reference the November Financial Report.

Ken noted that FENW was not billed for our return trip from Missouri Lakes, due to having to bail on the trip an entire day early (due to weather).

We have already received quite a few donations from signing up with the annual CO Gives event. There is a drawing that Colorado Gives does for all organizations that participate in the event, and are able to receive more than ten donations. The winning organization will receive a gift of \$25,000. One major stipulation to this is that the ten donations need to be received on the day of the 5th, in order to be eligible for the drawing.

Bill brought up the idea of asking the CO Gives organization about different criteria for being able to participate in annual event. It is sometimes difficult for smaller organizations to hold assets of at least \$25,000. He mentioned Poudre Wilderness Volunteers and Friends of Indian Peaks Wilderness as being in the same conundrum as FENW.

Bill made a motion to approve the November Treasurers Report, Kate seconded. ***Motion passed to approve the November treasurers report.***

Newsletter

Joel Gratz with Open Snow will be our featured interview for Decembers Eagle Post Newsletter

The idea was brought up to interview Kerry Donovan and about her Grandfather, Bill Mounsey and outlining a newsletter idea. Bill Mounsey is widely considered to be the godfather of Eagles Nest Wilderness.

Grants

Ken brought up the idea of having NFF (National Forest Foundation) volunteer wilderness rangers go and spray noxious weeds while they are hiking to qualify for this NFF grant. Keystone Science school and possibly Walking Mountains would also be potential partners for removal of noxious weeds.

Bill gave an update on the Summit Foundation grant. It seems likely that we will at least be rewarded some amount of the approximately \$14,000 requested. This project is for the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps. It is a two week project to remove deadfall on the east side of Eagles Nest Wilderness.

USFS Updates: Dillon Ranger District

Ken Waugh spoke about how the Forest Service budget is cherry picked for firefighting nationally. There is legislation to require that firefighting funds not be taken from the general USFS budget. Seasonal USFS employees' salaries are typically paid by USFS permits, such as outfitter funds. This money stays with the local district. The total compensation package for each seasonal employee was around \$20,000 per employee. The USFS is probably going to be asking friends groups / partner groups to fund these seasonal employees more and more going into the future.

It is estimated that with the Presidents new budget, that the total USFS budget could be decreased by 10% next year.

Ken also mentioned his hope for legislation that would keep skier funds within the local District. Currently the funds go directly into the treasury.

Volunteer Wilderness Rangers

Bob Theodore won the award for most amount of time spent on the trail.

This past summer there were over 900 volunteer ranger hours between the 2 counties, and 1000 to 1200 miles of trails hiked by volunteers.

Ken Harper brought up the idea of also adopting Bighorn trail in addition to Deluge as part of Eagle County's Adopt-a-Trail program. Between Tim Drescher and Dan Siebert's adoption of Gore Creek (through Eagle River Water & Sanitation District) and FENW's adoption of Deluge and Bighorn, this would cover all of the Wilderness trails in East Vail, minus Pitkin Creek.

New Business

Currie encouraged board members to think of ways that we could be reaching the people who placed their names on the sign up sheets from events, particularly earlier in the year at the REI grand opening.

Jerry Kelly unfortunately will be resigning from the board due to his move to the east coast. We wish you well Jerry!

Kate spoke about the enthusiasm for another crosscut training next spring / summer. Last years was very successful.

Frank went and cleared a large section of deadfall on the North Tenmile trail just recently.

We will invite Tom Koehler from FDRD to come to the next FENW Planning Meeting to present his idea of a shared calendar for our organizations events (ie: trail maintenance projects). Frank states that he will only need about 10 to 15 minutes to propose his idea.

Projects

Kate gave an excellent presentation about the Volunteer Wilderness Ranger program, our 2017 project accomplishments, ongoing efforts and special projects planned for 2018.

-Goals moving forward for continuous improvement:

- Continue to expand and enhance the volunteer ranger program
- Include crosscut and traditional tools training with volunteers
- Restart our weeds program with funding and leadership
- Leading overnight expeditions with support from Gore Range Outfitters and Paragon Guides

-Special Projects for 2018:

- Gateways Trail Day – June 16 & 17
- National Trails Day – June 2
- East Vail Overnight – Aug
- Deluge Lake Trail with VOC – Sep
- Overnight registration box installation – TBD
- Lily Pad Lakes Plank Bridge Project – TBD
- Salt Lick Connector Trail with VOC – TBD
- Adopt-A-Trail on Deluge, potentially Bighorn – TBD
- FENW/Colorado Outward Bound School at Piney Lake – Aug 2

There was discussion about how Doozie Martin with FDRD would like to see us be in more of leadership role, as opposed to a support role for certain projects, such as the Salt Lick trail realignment, and the trailhead hosting day.

The board agreed that getting ahead of the overnight registration box installation, by way of public education would be an important first step in making sure people do not get misconceptions about the program, and/or vandalize the boxes like we've seen in years past.

Tell your friends about our stewardship maintenance projects and get your peers involved!

Board Elections

Maryann brought up the idea of giving the general public a little more detail as to the job descriptions we need people to perform as part of their involvement with FENW. She thinks that this would help attract people a bit more, and get them interested in volunteer opportunities.

-Bill brought up the motion that the current board would be re-elected by acclamation. ***The motion passed and the current board members were reelected.***

Adjourn: A board meeting will convene after adjournment to elect officers

Bill made a motion to nominate Tim Drescher for the new FENW board president, Dan seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Thank you Currie for your all your 23 years of service! Currie will be the immediate past board president and current board member.

Dan expressed interest in becoming secretary. Ken made a motion to nominate Dan Siebert for the new FENW secretary, Kate seconded. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Frank made a motion to nominate Ken to continue as FENW treasurer, Bill seconded. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Mike made a motion to nominate Bill for President – Elect, Frank seconded. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Next Meeting

It was decided that board will skip the December planning meeting due to the busy holiday season, and will reconvene at the regularly scheduled January meeting date of January 25th at 5:30 pm.