

3 MAY 2021

CRCPRA Management Committee minutes

In attendance: Sid, Keith, Kathy, Lee, Paul, Mark

1. CRCPRA account:

- Monthly accounting action for CRCPRA activity would be available to committee members
- Our account is part of Town of Colfax operations

2. May 8th,2021 Open House:

- Our open house will be moved to June 5th, 2021
- Later date will provide more time to advertise (Volume 1, Colfax Messenger, Dunn County News, Facebook, Town of Colfax website)
- This new date will coincide with WI free fishing weekend

3. Posters for Open House:

- LeeAn will develop and post at local businesses, WI Tourism, Greater Menomonie Chamber of Commerce

4. Prairie restoration activity:

- Colfax Volunteer firefighters burned the west and School District of Colfax sites. Send a thank you letter to the firefighters for their efforts
- Students from Colfax High School Global Science class planted their 3 acre site using switch and Indian grass seed to promote nesting habitat for waterfowl
- Concern with aggressive grass and clover on the hill area on the west side site. Kathy will touch base with Lee Chambeau to spray (\$65/a x 3 acres) after that site is

seeded on 5/4/2021. The committee agreed to have the site sprayed.

5. Pond shocking:

- Paul has been in touch with Baldwin DNR fisheries biologist regarding shocking. Had not received a response back as to when the will shock.
- Maybe due to water temperatures being too cool. Ideal temps are between 55-70 degrees F

6. Tree Removal on far east prairie restoration site:

- Person who chips trees has not responded back
- Grant Paulus waiting to hear from us. Can we push the trees down with minimal soil disturbance?
- If interested in going with Grant, we need to get on his schedule
- Do we need to get other bids since this is in the township?
- Bill Michaels logging could give an estimate on cutting trees at ground level and treating.
- Should we contact Rob Strand (DNR Forestry-Menomonie) to take a look at the site as he has done at Dobbs. Mark will contact Rob.
- Should we open it up to the public to take free firewood?

7. Properties boundaries

- The School District of Colfax owns a portion along the river on the far southeast side. Mark talked to Bill Yingst, school superintendent re the parcel. His concern was liability and suggested signs be placed in the area letting the public know this area was school district land.

- Should we ask if the district would be willing to donate the parcel to the town of Colfax (CRCPRA)? Mark will talk to Bill
- A portion owned by 10 local residents who use it as hunting land for deer. It was agreed to leave this area for further discussion.
- What to do regarding Norton property boundary that juts into the paved entry road? It is up to the township to deal with property lines. The committee agreed to have the township of Colfax identify exact property boundaries.

8. Display Updates in the Kiosk and volunteering:

- Weekly updates of life on and around the pond, woods, and prairie are being made
- Important to keep it fresh
- Rules for using the property have been posted on the cork board portion of the kiosk
- Encourage sign up from volunteers who want to help
- Contact Julia to consider join committee as Volunteer coordinator
- Colfax NHS students need 3 hours of community service during the summer. Would be a good resource for pulling spotted knapweed on the School's prairie restoration site

9. Trail Benches:

Sid will make a sample memorial bench for the open house
 Consider using the Tech Ed department at Colfax High School to laser engrave weather resistant plaques for benches or other signage

10. Summer Activities:

- Open house, June 5th, 2021
- Should we create a suggestion box for activities?

11. Management log:

- Kathy recommended we keep a log of the management activities that have been conducted for future reference

1 June 2021: Short meeting before open house

8 June 2021: Regular monthly meeting