



NEOSWA – July Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 6th, 2023 (Zoom)

Attendees:

Paul Harlan (President), Jack Kleinhoff (Vice President), Jacob Putney (Secretary), Maurizio Valerio (Board Member), Alyssa Cudmore (Board Member), Brian Rabe, Bill Porfily

Called to Order: 6:01 PM

Meeting Minutes:

- NEOSWA/Firewise Tour & Annual Meeting - Recap
 - Great tour stops, turnout, speakers, & lunch. Overall, a fantastic event.
 - Meant a lot that Rick Zenn, Ken Nygren, and Karl Jensen attended.
- Auburn Tour & Log Cabin Building – Recap
 - Jack did an excellent job organizing and hosting this event. There were 45 folks in attendance that all asked great questions. Great food too!
 - A question was asked about how the event was advertised. It was sent out to the NEOWSA list, but word-of-mouth also proved effective to attract folks to attend.
 - Jacob mentioned that he has heard from folks outside of Baker County who were disappointed to miss the event and hope Jack will offer it again.
- Woodlands & Watersheds Event – Recap
 - Paul hosted a booth at the event and thought it was great. He mentioned that the primary audience seemed to be families with kids. He distributed all of the wood cookies w/ stickers that Maurizio had prepared.
 - Paul noted that of all the folks he interacted with, not a single one was a forestland owner.
- Tree School East – Recap
 - Jacob shared that there were 124 total folks in attendance, including instructors, exhibitors, and volunteers.
 - Overall, the event ran very smoothly, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, especially since it has been so long since the last time the event was held.
 - There was some discussion on things we may do differently next time to encourage more participation at the event.
- Upcoming Events & Opportunities – Discussion
 - County Fairs:
 - Baker (August 8-12th)
 - Grant (August 9-11th)
 - Union (*Need to Confirm*)
 - Need to coordinate member(s) to organize and staff a booth if we want to be present at these events.



- Local/County Events:
 - Paul shared his vision for offering several County or localized events throughout the year, bringing folks together, and not focusing on a larger-scale event.
 - Planning is underway for an event in Wallowa County:
 - "Living in the Woods"
 - Saturday, September 23rd
 - Topics – Predator ID, Fire Preparedness, Weeds/Invasive Species
 - More details to come.
 - Another idea for one of these events was "Tree Farm as a Business" to discuss best practices for landowners who may generate income from their property.
 - An idea was suggested about potentially partnering with OSU Extension to host a webinar series on relevant topics in the winter.
- Election – Treasurer
 - Brian Rabe was nominated, and accepted the nomination, to take over for Randy Guyer as the NEOSWA Treasurer.
 - A motion was made to elect Brian as Treasurer – Maurizio
 - The motion was seconded – Jack
 - A vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously.
 - Brian will work with Randy over the next several months to learn the ropes and then take over officially as our new Treasurer.
- NEOSWA Marketing Brochure – Discussion
 - The Brochure Sub-Committee (Jack & Maurizio) designed a brochure for NEOSWA that we could use for advertising and outreach.
 - From the Committee's designs, Jacob drafted the Brochure.
 - A discussion was held on the most recent draft of the brochure. Feedback was around the wildfire picture on the "Together We" page. It was mentioned that this fire photo didn't exactly align with the message we are trying to convey. There were suggestions on including photos/captions that were more management focused.
 - The Sub-Committee will convene to discuss potential updates and share those with Jacob to develop a new draft.
 - Paul mentioned that we should try to get this done as soon as we can.

Adjourn: 7:23 PM

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 7th, 2023 (Location & Agenda TBA)