

Announcement:
Meeting of the Willow Bend Environmental Education Center Board of Directors
and Guests

August 14th 23

4:30-6:00 pm – at Willow Bend

Willow Bend Environmental Education Center, 701 E Sawmill Rd, Flagstaff, AZ

4:30-4:45 - Welcomes, check in's

- **4:45 PM; Call Meeting to Order**
- **4:45 to 4:50 PM; Public Comments**
- **4:50 to 4:55 PM; Review and approve June minutes (Board may vote)**

Motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting

- **4:55 to 5:05 PM; Report/Updates**
- **5:05 to 5:25 PM; Annual Report and Funding review**

- **5:25 to 5:40 PM; Roles Discussion** (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, others?)
- **5:40 to 6:00 PM; Upcoming Board Needs, Science Saturday and adult workshop ideas, Items not on agenda**
- **6:00; Vote to Adjourn**

Notes:

Attendees

Staff – Moran Henn, Melissa Eckstrom, Ash Shields

Board – Mary McKell, Neil Weintraub, Eric Sounders, Jillian Wagner, Jillian Worssam, Karen Cordasco, Ariel Leonard, Jana Sterling, Andi Rogers, Stacy Hamburg

CNRCD– Tabi Bolton, Benny Aja

No members of the public present. Therefore, no public comments.

June minutes

- Motion to approve June minutes - Ariel
- Second - Jillian Worssam
- All in favor of approval.

Board update

- Name tags distributed to Board members.
- Whitney Owens is temporarily stepping away from the Board.

Reports/Updates:

Program Report – updated template. Send suggested changes to Melissa.

- Comparing year over year is starting to feel like a valuable exercise now. During and post pandemic it was difficult. See reports for detail.
- Geology tours twice a month throughout the summer.
- Upcoming Adult Workshop– Rio Wetlands Birding on August 19 and Wild Foods with Mike Dechter on September 9.
- Upcoming Science Saturday – Wonderful Wildlife on Sept 2. Past Science Saturday, including the 5 Cs – Jillian Worssam reports that attendance was high and many repeat attendees.

Annual Report/Funding

- Good news on grants (detail in reports)
- Social media presence has increased and volume of views and activity has increased. Kudos to Ash.
- For Science Saturdays – need at least 3 staff or Board members at each event. Ash has a shared document to sign up to volunteer. Can be other groups volunteering, too. Moran had an idea to create a flyer to share with schools/groups.
- Melissa made a table of all grants and associated projects (contracts).
 - Jillian Worssam had a question about partnership with MEMS and mentioned that Sinagua has a new administrator (Canker) that is open and excited about community involvement programs.
- Annual Report – Kudos to Ash again! She and Melissa reformatted the report to make it community focused and easy to read.
- Board Officers
 - Appreciation for past Board officers.
 - Any current officers interested in stepping down?
 - Mary interested in stepping down from her role as Treasurer.
 - Neil would like to step down from Vice President.
 - CNRCD meeting attendance, post minutes are importance responsibilities that must pass to the next officer in this position or other Board Members (maybe a shared Google calendar/doc to sign up to attend)
 - Add a standing meeting agenda item to check in on CNRCD meeting attendance
 - Ariel would like to step down from President position.
 - Jana willing to step down from Secretary position.
- Moran asked the room who would be interested in stepping up?

- Andi – interested in VP position
- Jana – interested in President position
- Jillian Worssam interested in Secretary position
- Jillian Wagner interested in Treasury position
- Motion to approve positions mentioned above. – Ariel
 - Mary seconds
 - Unanimously passed
- Board officers to schedule a transition meeting – half an hour prior to meeting or at a separate location
- Board needs
 - Science Saturdays (sign up on Google doc)
 - Wild Foods – September 9 Jillian Wagner
 - Sept 2 – Science Saturdays (covered)
 - Festival of Science
 - Science in the Park (Sept 23) – Please sign up on Google Docs
- All Board members should be members of Willow Bend and sign up for the newsletter.
- Andi – podcast class (7 weeks)
 - Willow Bend – collaborate on future episodes
- Ariel mentioned the Board retreat. How can we engage better? Instead of once/year, more often? Three times a year? Outside venue?
 - We need the external facing plan. Focus of first meeting.
 - These would be special session meetings.

Andi motion to adjourn. Jillian Wagner second. Unanimously approved.