

Colfax Red Cedar Preserve and Recreation Area
Management Committee Minutes
4 December 2023

Committee members present: Keith, Kathy, Lee, Paul, Mark

1. October minutes approved as read.
2. Financial report: balance of \$71,846.06.
 - a. Pier expenses (\$25,900 grant from WDNR + \$25,900 from CRCPRA acct)
 - b. Do we want to ask the public for donations?
3. CRCPRA website has Paul as the webmaster.
 - . Have an active link to the Science Exploration Day.
 - a. Other event registrations can be run through this link (snowshoe day, Winter shrub and tree id, etc.)
 - c. Keep it blog style (news and event posts)
 - d. Contacts information, newspaper articles, historical information. Could LeAnn write an article on the history of the NSP dam and canal?
4. Kayak launch location near the east gate and below the bench seems to be the best site to consider. Site has a hard, shallow bottom, but a 5 foot high steep slope. Slope would need to be pulled back using an ultralight backhoe (Sid?) Launch would require the use of heavy timbers installed in tiers using rerod and gravel to seat securely. Consider starting project after spring thaw when the water level of the river is stable. **Permits?** As long as you are not working in the water (consider high water mark) we should be ok. (check with zoning on this). Bring this up to the board for approval. Paul agreed to sketch a diagram of launch.
5. Osprey nest platform: CVTC will provide the 30 foot pole and a student crew to install. Select a site that can be easily driven to. Tyler will plow snow out to location. Need to construct platform before January.
6. Kestrel monitoring: Nest boxes on the east and west ends of the property will be monitored during nesting season. An easy, safer, and less disruptive method of looking into the boxes is the use of an endoscope while standing on the ground. Images could be shared on the website.
7. Communications: Bylaws. Initially, our committee was selected by the town. Kathy will go to the board to see if they have input. LeAnn may have input too. Do we form a subcommittee to form a draft and submit to the board? Table for further discussion at next meeting.
8. Snowshoe event: Sara Norman will organize/advertise the event. Saturday, Feb.3, 2024. Keith, Julia, Mark, and Paul will be available. Divide into adults and kids walk.
9. May Science Event: 18 May 2024
10. Winter Shrub and Tree Identification workshop with Jim Schweibert is planned for 24 February, 2024. Will need indoor and outdoor sites for the workshop. Mark will

contact the Ag and Biology teachers at Colfax High School for interest in hosting indoor portion at the high school. Kathy will post fliers.

11. Birding groups: Is there interest in leading early morning bird walks at the Preserve during the spring migration? Locals who may lead a hike Mark and Deb Toyce.

12. Riverbank erosion: Lee contacted Army Corps and is still in pursuit of feedback. Is there a cost share for stabilizing banks?

Next meeting is Monday, Feb.5t, 2024 at 7pm.