

Friends of the Tonto Board Meeting June 29, 2020 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Patti at 6:10 PM. Present on the Zoom phone call were: Ann Adkins, Pete Allard, Dayan Anderson, Patti Fenner, John Matteson, Don Pike, Bert Roy, Susan Sridharan, Scott Wood and Eric Yamane. We had a quorum (8 board members).

Financial Report: We had a deposit of \$450 into our bank account from Boeing. Thank you, Eric!

Susan had sent out a budget for 2020, which was reviewed by all. It looks very good. Susan said at some point we will need to hire a professional accountant to certify our financials. This is much cheaper than a full audit. Also, we will need to hire someone with the right tax software to do our tax filing for 2020 next year. It will have to be e-filed. Susan will look into this in October.

Bert requested funds up to \$500 to purchase a laptop for FOTNF from Best Buy. This was unanimously approved by the board.

Don had submitted for the budget a request to purchase a laser distance measuring device to help with field mapping where the terrain is difficult. This was not a specific request yet, as he has not looked into specific devices and costs yet.

Continuing Projects: Scott talked about his week with the youth crew working at Shoofly Village Ruin. They were a crew of 4 with 2 supervisors, and got everything done that he had lined out. The District was also happy with the work, as were visitors to the site while the crew was working. Scott did a write up with photos and sent it to Elizabeth to post on the website. The next thing for Shoofly will be a pipe rail fence, which will be pricey. John said he may have some info on contractors the ATA has used for pipe rail fencing. Scott also knows a fence builder from the Goat Camp fence. All the old broken-down wooden fence will need to be removed. And it's heavy.

Invasive plant grant thru the state: Don is working on applying for a grant to control fountain and buffelgrass in our "Weed-Free Zone" on the west face of the Superstitions. Ryan Nicholas at the SO is supportive.

Brian is also applying to continue control of saltcedar and oleander, and now Malta starthistle, tree of heaven, palm trees, and African sumac at Arnett Creek. Friends is part of the labor match - we will continue to do riparian photopoints along Arnett and Telegraph Canyons.

The City of Apache Junction is also putting in for this grant and has asked us for a letter of support. Patti will do this, as we have helped them in the past, and their control of fountain and buffelgrass will benefit the Tonto.

The Riparian Photopoint project is winding down. It's been a good year.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Fenner