Friends of the Clearwater Board Meeting Minutes 3-3-26

Board Members—Annette Bridges(zoom), Chris Irlam, Harry Jageman, Nils Peterson, Gary Macfarlane (phone), Lynne Nelson, Chris Norden, Steve Paulson, and Rick Rupp

Staff—Kyran Kunkel, Paul Busch, Jeff Juel, Krystal Starkey

1. The minutes were approved from last meeting (Nils motion, Harry second).
2. Financial Report. Nils reported on current financial statements, including the impact of the projected rent increase and the decline in revenue from Jan to Feb. Nils updated the projected days of operation without additional funds (thru Jun 9, 2026). Harry asked for clarification about grants and when they might arrive. Kyran reported on grants at various states of progress: New Lands; Clif Bar LOI (submitted); Ben and Jerry LOI (submitted); Innovia (submitted); ICCU (submitted).
3. Big Wild and Initiative Update
    a. Lin Laughy reported on his work on the Salmon Sanctuary. He has been in contact with 13 experts and is now compiling the results of those interviews. Suggestion was to declare that we already have a Salmon Sanctuary (and are defending it) rather than to be creating one. Experts are saying that size matters – need ridge to ridge protection of habitat, not just a buffer along the stream. We have these species in the Clearwater now: Spring/Summer Chinook, Coho, Fall Chinook, Steelhead. While these fish are reproducing in the wild, they may have hatchery genetics. Lin wrote the FOC comments for the NW Power CC.
    b. Long discussion of the Poster, Map and plans for deployment of the documents. Feedback was generated for the next revisions.
4. Paul shared a communication plan for 2026, including a team and goals. Key among the goals was the rollout of the Big Wild. Subgoals included Raising awareness among people who could become supporters; Informing and engaging members; and Converting supporters into donors, members, and volunteers. Among donors, a key goal is to increase the number of monthly donors from 20 to 60.
5. Jeff shared Defense issue including
    a. Litigation: Idaho wolf trapping appear to 9th circuit; Bitterroot Forest Plan amendment (grizzly and bull trout impacts); and 8 timbers sales in litigation.
    b. Logging: Green Horse is underway
    c. New Legislation: New Directions for Public Lands panel March 14; re-introduction of NREPA; Ending commercial logging on NF; and Defensible Space project – as an alternative to using logging to prevent fire.
6. Skipped Board member onboarding
7. Fundraising Committee Proposal was presented by Rick. The presentation included a template for projects to clarify the process and the resource needs and an approval mechanism.

Motion to adjourn (Rick moved; Harry 2nd)