

Northwest Montana Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association

(NWMT-FFLA)

Organizational Background

2012

September

End of season Forest Service Volunteer lookout Party at Kjell Petersen's home – Chuck Manning (Forest Service Lookout Volunteer) and James Barnett (HH/GV-AFMO) were chatting about lookouts on the Hungry Horse/Glacier View Ranger District and the topic of maintenance and restoration came up. The discussion included the possibility of starting a foundation to help support the restoration & maintenance efforts.

November

A foundation concept meeting was held at the Hungry Horse/Glacier View Ranger District's office where Chuck Manning presented the idea to Forest Service personnel Deb Mucklow/SB-DR, Seth Carbonari/SB-FMO, Rob Davies/HH/GV-DR sat in briefly, James Barnett/HH/GV-AFMO, Leif Haugan/HH/GV-LL and Rick Davis from the Lookout Volunteer group was also present. An outline of how a foundation might benefit the Forest Service was presented along with a conceptual mission statement draft. The consensus of those present was to move forward with the idea.

2013

February

Organizational Meeting - held with a core group of lookout volunteers, Steve & Barb Penner, Nancy & Chuck Manning, and Kjell Petersen, to look into two organizational options; 1) Do we start our own foundation; 2) Do we look into the FFLA as they have similar missions and already have 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Kjell contacted Gary Weber the FFLA Treasurer and the NID-MT Chapter Director to gather information.

March

Organizational Meeting - held with the core organizational group, Seth Carbonari/SB-FMO, Leif Haugan/HH/GV-LL, Rick Davis, Kjell Petersen, Nancy & Chuck Manning, and Steve & Barb Penner to review the FFLA/Gary Weber responses to our questions

April

Organizational Meeting - held with the organizational core group Rick Davis, Kjell Petersen, Nancy & Chuck Manning, Steve & Barb Penner, along with Forest Service personnel Leif Haugan/HH/GV-LL, Michael Dardis/HH/GV-MFO, Andy Huntsberger/HH/GV-AFMO, and Seth Carbonari/SB-FMO. Officers

were elected -- Chuck Manning/Chair – Kjell Petersen/Vice Chair – Nancy Manning/Secretary – Marli Davis/Treasurer; Discussion centered around the FFLA as the best option for us to move forward; The Lookout (the film) presentation by Leif Haugan was held at the O’Shaughnessy Center as a fundraiser for the bike/walking path between Columbia Falls and West Glacier. At that event the NWMT-FFLA lookout group was given permission to have a table to promote its effort. Names of interested people were gathered at this event to start a future contact list – Kjell Petersen and Marli Davis staffed the table and answered questions.

May

Organizational Meetings – core group - look into the national FFLA as our nonprofit option and partnering with the Flathead Community Foundation (FCF) for setting up a possible endowment; Chuck & Nancy Manning and Kjell Petersen met with Lucy Smith, Director, FCF.

June

Organizational Meetings - wrap up loose ends before summer Volunteer Lookout Schedules; Kjell Petersen looked into website possibilities; Chuck Manning presented the foundation idea to Lookout Training sessions at the Hungry Horse/Glacier View Ranger District; A request was sent to Gary Weber/Treasurer/FFLA to be a Local Chapter under the NID/MT Chapter.

July

No meetings - Core organizational group involved with Forest Service Volunteer Lookout duties – those duties separate from the NWMT-FFLA

August

No meetings - Received Local Chapter Certification from the national FFLA; Set up email account through gmail.

September

No Meetings - Website development with Kjell Petersen as webmaster; NWMT-FFLA logo development by Mark Manning

October

Organizational Meeting - Checking account set up at Parkside Credit Union; filed as a nonprofit corporation with Sec. of State so we could do business in MT and get a banking account; Bob Marshal Wilderness Foundation (BMWFW) donation in the name of the NWMT- FFLA / triptych photo of Baptist Lookout with clouds / photos from Kjell Petersen and Chuck Manning and edited by Mark Manning in Photo Shop / titled Last Light

November

Rick Davis, Kjell Petersen, Chuck Manning met with Gary Weber/NID-MT/FFLA for clarification on NWMT-FFLA responsibility to the national FFLA; addendum bylaws, etc.

Organizational Meeting – Board officially appointed by Chuck Manning/Chair – Appointed were current officers, Kjell Petersen/Vice Chair, Nancy Manning/Secretary, Marli Davis/Treasurer, and core organizational group members Barb Penner, Rick Davis, Mark Manning; Rick Davis gave report on meeting with Gary Weber; BMWF event successful - many interested in our group; website reviewed by Forest Service Personal and good to go public; NWMT-FFLA logo stickers developed and ready; NWMT-FFLA P.O .Box 2704 /Zip 59903; Kjell Petersen attended the Flathead Nonprofit Development Partnership - good group to stay connected with.

December

Board Meeting - Website published with email announcement; started developing MOU with Flathead National Forest; Bylaws committee (Rick Davis, Barb Penner, Leif Haugan) reported on bylaws addendum progress; Request sent to Gary Weber to have website hyperlinked to our local chapter listing under the NID-MT Chapter on the FFLA website; NWMT-FFLA Mission and Objectives adopted; website committee (Kjell Petersen, Leif Haugan, Mark Manning, Steve Penner) was formed to review expansion; March or April was targeted for a kick-off membership meeting with strong drawing card (Leif Haugan/Lookout Life) – should have MOUs and project list ready by that time.

<p style="text-align: center;">NWMT-FFLA 10/28 (Start of Business Year) - 12/31 Year End Report</p>
--

Current Balance	2,698.43
<i>Checking Balance</i>	618.33
<i>Saving Balance</i>	2,080.10

Income - Total	3,030.10
-----------------------	-----------------

Memberships Total	950.00
<i>1 year</i>	<i>210.00</i>
<i>2 year</i>	<i>120.00</i>
<i>3 year</i>	<i>120.00</i>

Donations - Total	2,080.10
<i>Not Earmarked</i>	<i>370.10</i>
<i>Earmarked</i>	<i>1,710.00</i>

Grants -

Other -

Expenses - Total	331.67
<i>Office</i>	331.67
<i>Projects</i>	-