

Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

9/8/2024@ 7:00pm

Attendees: Renee, Jen, Jodi, Mike, Tim. Jackson, Maverick, Jacque

Absent:

Meeting called to order at 7pm

Monthly Items

- Treasurer's Report

Opening Balance	7699.33
Opening Cash Balance	0.00
Transactions (Exc. Cash)	(\$932.38)
Sales	\$5,261.85
Pathtag Transactions	\$10.00
Pathtag Balance	\$20.00
Closing Balance	12028.80
Cash on Hand	0.00
Total Assets	\$12,048.80

Pending Business

- Waukesha County trails policy change regarding caches
 - Previously contacted Johnny Waypoint about why no new caches being approved on trails
 - May be due to work going on, on the trails
 - Will have to get information on how to proceed with Waukesha County
 - No new updates as of September
- Interurban/Powerline Trails
 - Geocaches not allowed on WEnergies properties.
 - Plan to make an attempt with Ozaukee County and WEnergies to gain permission to place caches on Interurban Trail/Power Line trail
 - buttersfamily89 wasn't able to be provided contact with Wisconsin Electric as an individual reaching out. WGA will reach out to them in fall to see if open to discussing with an organization.
 - If new geocaches will not be allowed, may need to archive other caches that are along the trail.
- Ice Age Trail cache approvals
 - Sensitive areas on trails, trail work in progress, and landowner easement issues...leaving on agenda

- No new updates as of September
- BOD committee assignments
 - Geo201: an effort to find someone with more social media presence...possibly including videos. Looking for volunteers
 - John Sudar posted in Geocachers of Wisconsin FB page about GSAK, and a number of people commented about doing a class on it....following up with John about this.
 - May reach out to the lady that has lots of knowledge about Earth Caches class
- Committee Reports
 - TB Race
 - End of race is coming up – Thursday, September 19th 11:59PM
 - Will reach out to Lois Raslas about making the trailer decal.
 - advertise next year TB race for next year: racers dropped off at Cache Bash, can still collect.
 - Bought 25 trackables from Space Coast for extra racers-attached to ducks – available to purchase at the fall campout.
 - “European Vacation” race - possible local cacher who is going to Greece in March to help kick off an individual race or associated with WGA – HOLD TO PROMOTE TIL SPRING
 - Maverick is road tripping in September towards the west, idea is to put each in paper bag for random drop – Maverick has researched caches along their journey that will be good ones to drop in, has had activity and recently had TBs in them.
 - WB review:
 - Geocaching 101 – information on cache page, FB page, and flier still showed Saturday even though they wanted us to move it to Friday. Mike to reach out.
 - Merchandise-Is it possible to simplify the entries to make things easier to find in the list on tablet?
 - Signs – a couple new signs that might help (Clearance and Reduced)-Mike to work on
 - WGA donated 2 swag bags
 - WB Area CoC – 1-262-338-2666
 - For future, can up the long sleeve and sweatshirt order count, can take extra to Fall Campout and Chili
 - Merchandise/Store
 - Path Tags...Mike from Michigan was emailed by Renee, including Tim and Mike. Mike has reached out to Mike to begin Volunteer tag discussion. Michigan Mike replied with Volunteer proof
 - WGA store has closed for the fall camporee
 - Board pathtags – handed out at bash...Jodi will send info about amount owed for board pathtags for each board member.
 - Sold 25 WGA Anniversary coins to Space Coast – Have a merchandise credit of \$125 with them.
 - Wooden Nickel vendor lives in Wisconsin, says he can do a better deal for the Wisconsin pathtag boards.
 - Jodi passed out bank account info cards
 - WGA games
 - Pathtag game pricing – \$5 per spin or trade of 2 pathtags for a spin
 - Plinko pathtag game – debuted at Cache Bash
 - Pathtag cost in store will remain at \$3.
 - Other items
 - Will pursue obtaining pricing from Wooden Nickel on <https://woodennickelgeocoins.com/>
 - Both of the following could be introduced at 2025 Chili event
 - Wooden Nickel vendor also makes the pathtag dispenser, we can make a purchase. Renee to reach out to him about pricing for an order.

- Custom WGA Trackable tag
- Board Path Tags
 - Chili event – theme ideas have been added to the Teams
 - New item: we need someone to take the lead with communicating with our artist to create the last 2 pathtags – volunteers (Mike) and chili event (Tim)
- Oldest County List
 - Jackson working on verifying the oldest in county list – checking to see if Project-GC could help.
- Yellowstone Trail Updates – new points added to map
 - Working with Minnesota contact about continuing AL series into MN.
 - Tim reached out to IL contact about working on Trail that direction
 - There is now a bonus cache bookmark list in reference to Yellowstone Trail Adventure Labs
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- State Park Series
 - Jackson will be updating the finisher list – pathtags available for disbursement
 - Renee has 4 of the generic state decals and 2 of the Nelson Dewey, Jen has 3 of the generic state decals
 - Renee reported a few that need to be checked, Jackson to check what he can and contact trail bosses where needed.
- Ice Age Trail Series – in discussion with cache hidere on making hides along connection trails
 - Jackson will be updating the finisher list – pathtags available for disbursement
 - Renee has 14 of the Ice Age trail decals
 - New item: Oct IAT Mammoth Hike Tie-In with Ice Age Trail Alliance
 - Promote in newsletter/social media platforms
 - Mammoth trail signup through Signup Genius for October-Jennifer, Jodi, Mike did a work call
- Photo of the Month
 - August winner was posted and sent gift card and letter by Jen
 - September contest up and running
- LCG (Lonely Cache Game)
 - Jen reported about the survey that most feedback was to make easier and incorporate more caches than in past, getting away from previous list.
 - Justin will help coordinate – currently do a band-aid fix.
 - Self Report on any last found a year or more.
 - Justin is looking into WGA site code to make updates that may be able to incorporate something for LCG.
 - Long Term fix for the future.
 - Change in prizes? Tiered prizes? Decision to not have monthly prizes.
 - Jen communicated with Chris about idea changes, Marie has drafted a new layout of rules so they are not so daunting.
 - The idea of sponsors
 - Decided if committee members wanted additional prizes committee members could possibly sponsor.
 - Having an event around this effort-spring time for a kickoff – maybe by region
 - Rewards ideas discussed
 - Options to consider:

- Those submitting reports, for every 5 or 10 reports – drawing entry for 2nd chance drawing.
 - Or 1 drawing entry for each entry for 2nd chance drawing
 - Top 3 winners for the year not eligible for 2nd chance drawing
- Membership
 - Zip Code could be added to summary list – future add.
- Newsletter
 - Status
 - Tips and Tricks, and Road Trip submissions have been light.
 - Plan to do a standalone campout article, being done by John Sudar,
 - Next Newsletter deadline was Aug 16
 - Winter Newsletter will come out in November.
 - Will highlight Yellow Stone Trail road trip
- Historical
 - Renee has uploaded in teams a list of pathtags we have and what is needed.
 - Board agreed to give John access to our pathtag account and allow to make trades/purchases
- Quarterly Cache Spotlight
 - Latest spotlights were noted/rewarded in the latest newsletter
- Spring picnic 2025
 - Tim stated that the shelter is reserved free of charge – shelter is huge.
 - Southwest quadrant – Wyalusing State Park
 - Park manager looking to have 20-25 caches at most in park added.
 - Committee – Tim, Jackson, Mike
 - To be held May 17, 2025
 - Jackie to run the Geocaching 101 lesson
 - Get Outdoors is the DNR program our Geocaching 101 session relates to
 - Tim will reach out to geocachers in the area to be hiders
 - Station someone at events at an entry point for logbook, schedule, trackables, other items, especially for new attendees, white board for cachers looking for a buddy
 - kid activities went well at 24 picnic, using swag bags for chuck a duck worked well
 - Name tags – hanging from canopy worked
 - central Wisconsin location suggested for a future event
- Website
 - conversations with Justin
 - Website revamp – getting close to completion
 - Checking to do a review at the October meeting or before
- GeoTour
 - Not much progress, pretty much dead for the moment
- Social Media
 - Jen's report – been making regular media posts
 - Jen encouraged if anyone has ideas for posts, she can help pretty up the post
- Fall Campout 2024
 - Cito event on Thursday

- Friday - Jen has Amnicon Falls event
- Smore making event on Friday, we will be providing smores supplies and wood for smore making event. Jodi to update event page for people to bring extra wood if want to stay later.
- Saturday camping event
- New caches to release Friday and Saturday.
- Prize baskets donated for campout
- If members donate something they receive a free ticket
- New events around that weekend posted this week
- Contacted Carrie Nolan (CarrieO) has created a FB group for hidere – placing new caches and ALs
- Campout design contest for t-shirts – post of social media
- Theme – Chasing Geocaches and Waterfalls
- Tim will be picking up Trailer in Bloomer Thursday before campout, Mike will pull it home.
- Muffins and milk event on Sunday morning
- Elections
 - To be discussed later this year
- Chili 2025 – debrief from this year
 - Confirmed for March 1st, 2025
 - 1st board meeting March 2nd – in person
 - Planning to move merchandise out of room with chili serving
 - For chili serving, use long set of tables in middle of room to create 2 lines – better flow
- CITO
 - – social post was made to announce WGA sponsoring of events @ \$50 each
Paid for 4 CITO's in first term
 - - Fall CITO – to run 9/1 – 11/30 – after Cache Bash send out social media communication

New Topics

- Minnesota Geocaching working on continuing YST into Minnesota
- IGO - Iowa Geocaching Association- joint board meeting to discuss possible border event
 - Eric Smith of IGO – Proposing a virtual meeting in late Oct/ early Nov
- Discussion and decision on vacant board member position due to Jeff's passing.
 - As the Board member who died was in the range of the 18th month of his term on the WGA Board, our interpretation of the bylaws allow us as the Board, at our discretion, to operate, with only the remaining eight members until the position can be filled at the next general election. And, as it is technically the end of that term, with our upcoming election, there would be no need to have anyone then fill the remainder of the term of this vacated position, it will just be an open position in that election to be filled.

Action Items

- NA

Unfinished business

Next meeting Sunday – October 6th – link at Administration / General. Should be pinned at top.

Meeting adjourned at: 9:12pm