



**Coordinating Team Meeting – September 12, 2017, 2:00 p.m.
The Riverside Hotel**

Guests: Jim Nunley (NFWF), Julia Rundberg (LTTV), Devon Stopher (CH2Mhill), Roger Rosentreter (Lichenologist), Jessie Sherburne (BSU), Andy Brunelle (TU)

CT attendance: Kathy Peter, Tamsen Binggeli, Mike Homza, Kati Carberry, Liz Paul, Whitney Byrd, Megan Dixon

Approve Minutes: Kati motion to approve July minutes, Tamsen seconded, July minutes approved. Liz motion to approve August special meeting minutes, Whitney seconded, August special meeting minutes approved.

Financial Update: Profit and Loss handout. Since incorporating, BREN has opened its own bank account and is using QuickBooks online software for bookkeeping. BREN has received four sponsorships since incorporating, three related to the BREN River Boogie! BREN also received money for the BREN River Boogie registration. A full detail of the BREN River Boogie income and expenses will be provided at the November meeting. Total income \$8,300.76 (including opening balance from LTTV) and total expenses \$1,106.27 for a net income of \$7,194.49.

NFWF Hyatt Wetlands Grant: This is a restoration project and work to engage the refugee community. The grant had to go to a 501c3; therefore, the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley received the funding as our fiscal agent at the time. Tim Breuer is working on outreach and feasibility. Martha Brabec (City of Boise) is working on restoration and native plants. There is a field trip planned for September 20th for restoration specialists/expert advisors to discuss enhancement opportunities and community engagement for this fall. The uplands are dry with a lot of non-native and invasive species. The budget is \$30,000 including supplies: soil enhancement, trees, and shrubs. The grant is for 1 year and 6 month duration. There is a huge community engagement/volunteer activity component to this grant. LTTV is working with Idaho Office of Refugees. It is important to have cultural sensitivity and to make the volunteer experience meaningful and avoid tokenism. There will also be engagement of the general public. The idea is to develop a stewardship plan that involves the neighbors/ people living around there and can be applied to other projects. The current volunteer day is set for October 19th, 10am-1pm. Other volunteer days for fall are expected.

- Volunteers need to track hours for the grant! Email to LTTV.
- Do you know any group/individual that may want to lead a hike?

- LTTV is receiving the money to manage the grant, for supplies, communications contract (could be Liz Paul, who would be working for LTTV and BREN).
- Kathy Peter will serve as Project Liaison for CT and LTTV.

BREN INC: BREN incorporated with the State of Idaho on July 14, 2017. Now we are applying for 501c3 status. For things that are important to keep in mind to maintain non-profit status 1) Everything we (CT) do should serve the purpose of BREN. 2) 501c3 status is valuable. Do not jeopardize this! 3) We already have the practices in place: transparency, decision making, records keeping, etc. 4) Bylaws are in place, including conflict of interest process and policy. Once we receive 501c3 status, all donations after July 14th are considered tax deductible. BREN established a Board of Directors (serve as a volunteer board): Kathy Peter (president), Derek Risso (VP), Sean Finn (Secretary), Tamsen Binggeli (Treasurer), Maria Minicucci, Will Whelan, Darryl Kuhrt. The BREN Coordinating Team is still in place and established by the bylaws as a "Director's Committee". The Coordinating Team will continue to play the central role in "running" BREN. The 501c3 application is circulating for review. Tamsen - Thank you letters, should say pending for tax ID and tax deductible status? Yes.

CT Election: Handout. A HUGE thank you to outgoing CT members! This includes Kati Carberry, Bill Carr, Thom Chelstrom, Christy Meyer, Liz Paul, and Julie Scanlin. The CT is now made up of 7 to 13 members – 2 are appointed by the board. The remaining 5 to 11 members are elected by the BREN Members. Board Appointed: Tamsen Binggeli, Kathy Peter. Current CT: Whitney Byrd, Megan Dixon, Mike Homza. Submitted ballots: Phil Bandy (returning CT), Erin Brooks (returning CT), Charissa Bujak, Mike Dimmick (returning CT), Lisa Harloe, Jessica Harold, Greg Kaltenecker, and Jessie Sherburne. The election will be held online Monday, September 18, 2017 to Sunday, September 24, 2017. CT officers will be elected at November meeting.

Cottonwood Creek Project – Presentation by Andy Brunelle (TU). The funding is for phase II of BOR grant. The project is located at the east end of Julia Davis Park on the north side of the Boise River, west of Broadway Ave, south of Myrtle. Cottonwood Creek is an intermittent Stream. The project will focus on 'daylighting' the creek (currently in a flume) into a natural stream channel within Julia Davis Park. This project is part of the Julia Davis Park Master Plan. Plans for this project have been ongoing for over a decade. Andy shared a power point presentation that the City Parks and Rec, TU and Rotary put together in 2004 that developed the concept and design for the project.

BREN Inc. is the legal entity that will receive the \$100k grant. A large portion of grant will be allocated to TU (project manager). A contract/MOU will need to be established between BREN and TU. The BREN CT also approved contracts for outreach and the grant administration component.

We need a CT member to be the primary contact person for this project. Since the new CT begins their term on October 1st, we will wait to recruit members from the new CT to manage

this project. Megan – a handout with information on the project and BREN's specific obligations for this grant will be helpful. Tamsen, Megan and Kathy will work to put something together.

Outreach committee and chair: Kati Carberry will serve as the Outreach Chair until the new team is established and briefed at the November meeting, at which time a new member will be appointed.

Volunteer Appreciation Event: Since we did the Boogie this year, we need to have a separate event to say thank you to all of our volunteers, outgoing and incoming CT members. Liz Paul will spearhead this event. We're looking at early November before the holiday season is in full swing. Mid-week event preferred.

Do not miss our upcoming events!

- **BREN River Boogie!** Sunday, September 17, 2017. Currently 60 registered to do the race. Star time: 10:30am
 - Important to pull together lessons-learned from the Boogie event to inform next year's event.
- **Riparian Tour at the Riverside Hotel** - Turf was removed from more than 900 feet of waterfront and native plants were planted to improve wildlife habitat, flood resilience and aesthetics. Tuesday, September 26, 2017, 1:30-2:15.
- **Watershed Watch**, Saturday, September 30, 2017 10:00-12:00. BREN is looking for Citizen Scientists to help at one of our two sites (Linder Bridge site #29 or Star Rd. Bridge site #25).

Member and Public Comment Time. Emiline Hogg from the City of Nampa contacted us about using BREN as a fiscal sponsor to raise money for their Raingarden Project (BREN CT members attended meeting on this project in 2016). Tamsen Binggeli will contact Emiline about the project needs. BREN currently does not have the ability to earmark funds. This could change in the future. For now, the Lower Boise Watershed Council may be able to help with this as they are also mission-aligned.