

Payette Lakes Progressive Club Meeting  
Membership Meeting  
Pueblo Lindo Family Restaurant  
February 13, 2024

The membership enjoyed lunch and social time at Pueblo Lindo Family Restaurant with one another at their own expense. Membership and Guest Attendance Sign-in on record.

Program

President Verla Brown called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. Cheryl Meinzer introduced the Payette Land Trust speakers, Craig Utter, Executive Director and Jen Duplisea, Board Member. Payette Land Trust is dedicated to conserving the rural landscapes of West Central Idaho to benefit our communities; protecting the scenic, agricultural, recreational, historic, and wildlife character of the region.

Jen Duplisea shared a little about her history and her connection with the goals of the PLT. She expanded on her role as the Chair of Marketing and Out Reach and shared the following information. The Land Trust covers four counties in west Central Idaho including Valley, Adams, Idaho and Washington. Both Craig Utter and Jen Duplisea thanked the PLPC for the grant supporting the Big Heart Program. Jen discussed a number of marketing events to bring awareness to their mission. Some of these programs include the Big Heart Program and Conservation through Art. They also put on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sweetheart Event and Auction on February 10, which was a big success. Other events to come are a barbeque in August and a fall event at the Glass House with an art show and six course dinner. Other future plans include group tours of properties that have been preserved by the Land Trust. Jen also mentioned that there are a limited number of volunteer openings.

Craig Utter discussed his history in Colorado, Nebraska and Idaho loving the land and watching development. He mentioned Valley County Engine as the driving force of the Land Trust with support and community involvement. Payette Land Trust is dedicated to conserving the rural landscape of west central Idaho, to benefit our communities; protecting the scenic agricultural recreational, historic, and wildlife character of the region.

Craig touched on how a Land Trust Deed works. The land owner might sign a land trust deed with an easement engagement upon development. It is a way to convey their conservation wishes forward for ever. When the property is sold, the new owner will need to accept the conservation agreement that is in place.

Craig also talked about development following rivers and valleys and the need to preserve some of this land. He talked about the 44 acre Payette River Walkway that was purchased by the Land Trust through donations and pointed out that conservation is not free. There are some Federal funds available, but there are not any Idaho funds. He encouraged us to get involved as a collective community to help decide what areas we would like to preserve.

For more information on the Payette Land Trust and conservation land and projects, go to their website: [payettelandtrust.org](http://payettelandtrust.org)

The business meeting began at 1:05 p.m. Verla Brown, Club President thanked Pueblo Lindo Family Restaurant for hosting our meeting and Gail DiBenedetto for taking minutes.

Verla announced and thanked Bob Meinzer and Steve McIntee for supporting the Scholarship Fund with a recent donation of \$7000.

Verla introduced our guests Doreen Warren and Cynthia Bambic, who both gave a brief introduction of themselves.

Verla introduced Bev Hellman and Jessica Harrison as co-chairs of our Annual Fashion Show Luncheon. Bev and Jessica shared the event theme, Pearls of Promise. The target date for the event is June 11<sup>th</sup>. They are waiting on confirmation from the desired venue, Shore Lodge. A committee sign-up sheet was circulated to the members. The first meeting will be on March 1, 2:00 pm at Bev Hellman's home (218 Ferguson Way, McCall). They will be every other Tuesday as required from then on.

#### Secretarial Report

Minutes from the December membership meeting were distributed to all members prior to the meeting. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved as distributed. The minutes were entered into the record.

Jennie Tunnell read a thank you correspondence from Roots Forest School. They used our grant to provide a scholarship for one child for the 2023/24 school year.

#### Treasury Report

Jennie Tunnell reported that general club income for December and January was \$8380, comprised of \$7000 donation from Bob Meinzer and Steve McIntee, \$250 from John & Laura Carter Charitable Foundation, and \$450 from Kathy Poston and Suzanne Paisley. The remainder of the income came from membership dues totaling \$680 during the last two months.—Expenses included outstanding FOT expenses, December membership meeting costs, accounting fees, bank fees, postage, and Chamber of Commerce membership fee. The final Festival of Trees income is at \$20,649.

Fiscal YTD income to expense is a net loss of \$10,917. We started our Fiscal Year with \$79,033 in the bank and our current balance is \$68,116, a reduction due to the significant amount of scholarship awards and community grants issued last summer/fall.

#### Membership Reports

Lola Elliot, Vice President reported that there are 117 members. She thanked members for their support of the club's fundraising events. She gave special thanks to Kathy Poston and Linda Carter for help with the name tags and Jan Bittenbender and Dallas Young for the Valentine decorations.

Verla Brown announced the Slate of Officers for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 presented by the Nominating Committee as follows. This slate of Officers will be presented at the April membership meeting. At that meeting nominations will be taken from the floor.

#### Officers

Lola Elliot – President

Katie Gwinn – Vice President

Linda Corder – Recording Secretary

Christine Haener Corresponding Secretary

Kathy Menten and Tama Lamm – Co-Treasurers

Lisa Zeiter – Member at Large

#### Standing Committee Chairs

Garden – Pat Thompson

Membership/Pamphlet – Katie Gwinn

Publicity – Linda Hallock

Program Mary Carter

Hospitality – Jan Bittenbender and Dallas Young

Grant – Gail DiBenedetto

Scholarship – Nicole Youkstetter and Treone Cooley

Fund Raising – Linda Hallock

June Luncheon and Fashion Show – Bev Hellman and Jessica Harrison

Roseberry Barn Barbeque, September 7, 2024 – Linda Hallock

Webmaster – Tracy Faaborg

#### Special Committee Chair

Idaho Gives – Treone Cooley

#### Fund-Raising Committee

Linda Hallock reported that we that we will no longer be doing the Festival of Trees this year due to the intense labor required and planned a change for the second yearly fundraiser. She announced our second fundraiser as a barbeque on September 7<sup>th</sup> at the Roseberry Barn. The Bottom Line Band will be the entertainment for the event. Linda also thanked Verla Brown for her two years of service as President of the Club.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail DiBenedetto, Member in good standing