



**January 20, 2014**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Present**

Bill B. (President), Lars A. (Vice President), David F. (Trail Care), Steve G. (Park Supervisor), Pam J. (Secretary)

Number Present: 5

Meeting convened at 7:09 P.M.

Minutes are presented in Agenda order

**Opening Remarks President (Bill Boles)**

Bill welcomed all and no introductions were necessary as all present are known to each other.

**Vice President's Report (Lars)**

Lars showed us a beautiful rendering of the new map of Wompatuck State Park. Steve G. will be placing a large copy of the new map in each kiosk in the park. Steve also said that Jessica Lenehan, who is the interpreter for the district, will be fixing up the main kiosk at the Visitor Center. This map is so beautiful that suggestion was made to offer the map as a poster to be sold on the FOW website. All agreed this is a great idea. Lars will follow up.

**Secretary's Report (Pam)**

Bill asked if there should be any changes made to the December Secretary's report. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. The vote was unanimous to accept.

**Treasurer's Report (Bill B. for Jane)**

In Jane's absence Bill reported that the current balance in the account is \$24,760.78. Bill distributed a list of expenses.

**Membership Report (Sandy C. absent)**

We will look forward to Sandy's report next month.

**Web Page Report (Bill B. for Vicki)**

Vicki reported by email that she is still working to resolve checkout issues with the website. We will look forward to her full report next month.

### **REI Project Grants (Lars and Bill B.)**

Lars and Bill discussed possible projects to apply for an REI grant. Grant amounts can be close to \$10K. Steve G. suggested building a scenic overlook. Discussion ensued regarding the section of trail between S33 and S34, which is in dire need of repair and restoration. FOW could use the grant money to hire an AmeriCorps crew to design and restore that section of the park. We could also name the trail the REI TRAIL. This discussion will be on the February agenda.

### **Mt. Blue Spring, Water Treatment Licensing (Steve G.)**

Steve G. reported that he is required to be licensed to run the Mt. Blue Spring and he is also required to pay membership dues in order to operate the Mt. Blue Spring. He is not reimbursed by DCR. Steve has paid \$210 personally for dues and membership fees. A motion was made and seconded to have FOW reimburse Steve for his personal expenses to operate the Mt. Blue Spring; the vote was unanimous to accept the motion and reimburse Steve.

### **Trail Watch Wompatuck (Carl C. – absent)**

We will look forward to Carl's report in February.

### **Wilderness First Aid Course (Bill B.)**

Bill distributed a poster with details for a Wilderness First Aid Course that will be presented in Blue Hills in the spring. Bill will get the detailed information to Vicki to post on the website. Please refer to the website for dates and details. This course will be a terrific opportunity for Trail Watch Wompatuck team members to receive first aid training appropriate for assisting park users. A motion was made and seconded to have the FOW pay the course fees for any FOW member who attends the course; the vote was unanimous to accept.

### **Dog Rules Flyer (Lars)**

Lars has created a flyer that identifies the major rules for dog/owner behavior in the Park. The rules will be posted in all kiosks.

### **FOW Maps Reprint (Lars)**

DCR will not be printing maps for Wompatuck; those funds will be directed to printing maps for Ames Nowell Park. Lars said his recollection of the cost to print was \$3K and Pam will confirm the quantity that was printed for that fee. As FOW has sufficient funding, discussion ensued regarding whether or not we would seek advertising funding. All agreed that FOW can cover the reprint costs, and we would like to thank our corporate sponsors by officially thanking them on the map. Pam will confirm the complete list of corporate sponsors which will include: REI, *bikebarn*, Simms Brothers, Pilgrim Paving, Boy Scouts, Mass Bay Road Club, NEMBA and Party Time. A complete list will be forwarded to Lars.

### **Trail Report (Dave F.)**

Dave spoke to the group about repairing trails and sustaining trails. Dave showed us a series of photos detailing the progression of using “pavers” (which look like cinder blocks) to sustain trails. Steve suggested we could use cinder blocks from the demolition of the annex area. Dave suggested we prototype a trail and suggested the “Bird Trail” S32 – S11 and use surplus soil from South Field. Dave commented that it may take several hours to plan the prototype project and would require a dedicated Trail Care Day crew of 10 – 12 people to possibly complete a 20 – 30 foot section of trail. Steve G. suggested we consider March – April time frame to schedule this project. Dave described several options for trail maintenance as: re-routing; draining; hardening and using pavers. We do not want to close trails. We need to be sure trail access is acceptable for all park users, including xc skiers and equestrians.

In anticipation of this trail work to be completed, a motion was made and seconded to have Dave purchase 8 chipping hammers, 8 sets of goggles and 8 pairs of gloves; the vote was unanimous to accept. Dave will bring the estimate for costs to the next meeting. We will also set dates for Trail Care in February.

### **Old and New Business**

Bill Boles read portions of a letter from Ted Langrill, Chief of Staff to Senator Hedlund, to Jack Murray, DCR. The letter was signed by both Senator Hedlund and Representative Bradley. The purpose of the letter was to document support for the complete demolition of the buildings and hazardous conditions in the closed annex portion (125 acres) of Wompatuck State Park. The demolition will allow the land between Wompatuck State Park and the Rail Trail through Whitney Woods to be opened to the Cohasset commuter rail station. Bill and Steve G. will keep us posted on progress. This is extremely good news.

Steve G. reported that Tony Iaria (general construction) will be completing work to repair the handicap access ramp to the Visitor Center.

Pam J. will be stepping down as FOW Secretary after 4 years. Pam said she will continue to organize and run registration for Landmine this year. Bill B. will be contacting volunteers to serve as Secretary.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

The next meeting is February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. This is a date change due to the February 17<sup>th</sup> holiday.

Respectfully submitted by:

Pam Johnson  
FOW Secretary