

FOW Meeting Minutes 3/21/2006

In Attendance: Eric O., Bill Boles, Jim Rose, Steve Gammon, Andy Mills, Tom Hancock, Katie, Steve G., Tim Benza, Dan Menza, Colby Elves, Dan Benza, Mark Cullings, Malcom, Kevin

Absent (Board Member): Chris Hebert

Bill B. welcomes group to the new official FOW, state incorporated, organization.

Item#1 Atomic Bunker Project- Intro by Andy M. discussing project overview. Purpose of project is to enable scouts to develop leadership skills. Three scouts made presentations. Here is the outline:

**Friends of Wompatuck State Park
Atomic Bunker Project(s) outline**

Dan Benza

Paint

- Scrape/ sand old paint
- Prime doors
- Paint doors (inc; stencils)
- Paint "V" walls

Clean debris from loading dock

Clean debris from inside bunker

Tim Benza

Clear a pathway from Union Street to bunker

Install a handicap accessible ramp

Colby Alves

Install signs indicating bunker location

Install commemorative/historic plaque

Plant memorial flower garden

- Locate garden area
- Plant perennial flowers
- Install bench(s)

Document history of bunker

Prepare short written report for display at Visitor' Center include:

Interviews of surviving employees of Hingham Navel Depot Annex

Research of existing written history of the bunker

Other: (FOW crew)

Install fencing in front of low 'pit' area
Install parking area off Union

ALL:

Hold open house

Invite : Friends of Wompatuck local media, surviving members, current & past park employees, other interested parties

Andy M.- Additional items. He wants to install a fence and to develop the parking area. Possibly gravel. Mr. Benza has a friend who has a bobcat to help with the installation. Andy is hoping FOW would be in charge of these two items. Then we need to organize a public showing / presentation.

Motion was initiated to accept these projects, the motion was seconded by several persons in the group. Accepted unanimously by the group.

Time frame- Hoping to be done by the summer or fall of this year. Scouts will petition community and FOW for volunteers and financial assistance with this large project.

Item #2

Report from officers:

Bill Boles- REI grant for \$10,000. Money went to NEMBA this time b/c we are not 501c3 at this time. The DCR is going to match this with another \$10,000. But, there are conditions attached. REI want its money spent in ways which benefit its customer base (camping, kayaking, fishing, biking, etc). DCR wants there money spent towards a capital project. Since these are disparate goals, compromises will have to be made. One project is to put a dock in Holly pond that people could use to dock kayaks, use for fishing, birdwatching, and a rest place for hikers. And it is not too far from a road so REI could come and do canoing and kayaking demos. REI grant must be spent by the end of the year.

Other ideas include installation of kiosk, benches, bike wash station behind VC. Other suggestions are to put in an exercise course, installation of playground in campground area.

Steve G has taken the initiative to get an estimate from a local contractor. Size will be 8 by 16 feet. He will talk to conservation commission to determine materials to be used in the pond. They will let him know if they can do it for under \$20,000. Pond generally maintains its water levels b/c it has two streams coming into it. We could install plaques for FOW, REI, DCR.

We are in the process of applying for 501c3 status. Paper is in to a local lawyer, pro bono. Jarvis Kellogg from Foley & Larder. This would enable us to receive REI grant

directly in the future. We will also be applying for grants for trail work from the state. REI tends to give to areas closest to their stores. 2 other parks have received money in the state. REI gives money to parks nationally.

Mr Benza comments that Pilgrim Nuke plant also gives out grants on a yearly basis which we could apply for next year once we have 501c3 status. These are environmental grants. Our mission would fit in with this. Mr. Benza said he would sponsor us for application for next year.

Steve C: Thanks to Steve for organizing successful trail maintenance session last Sunday. Goal is to schedule another one this spring then again in the September. Possibly the 23rd of Sept. which is a Sat. Group agrees Sat. would be good but Steve will pole NEMBA to see if Sat. would be good for people. Next date is tentatively scheduled for week after NEMBA fest, June 18th which is a Sunday. Steve will also pole NEMBA forums to decide upon it. Steve will inform the group by the next meeting about final date.

As an aside, Steve G. said the rail trail is slow moving at this point. It may be completed by this spring but hopefully sometime this year.

Eric O.- Eric updated the group about he website. He will be working with Bill Moeller to spruce up the site and work on content. Eric is working with different insurance vendors to obtain the best policy for FOW to cover both the board and activities. He will have this completed by the next meeting. Eric showed the group the new FOW logo. Group liked the logo. Next step will be to print stickers using the logo and begin incorporating it into FOW paperwork. Eric presented information from the Treasurer Chris Hebert who was unable to make the meeting. We no have our own savings and checking account with an approximate balance of \$2,400. We have spent \$200 to date. We currently have 9 official members.

Item #3- Kiosks.

Steve G. acquired 4 new kiosks which are ready to be installed. His guys will install these. Location to be determined. FOW will be responsible for stocking these with maps, etc. Doan Street, South Pleasant, Mt. Blue Street, Springs Entrance, and secondary visitor parking across from visitor center. Plan is to go out with a small group to decide upon location. Final site determination will be made over the next two weeks.

Old Business:

National Recreational trail grants will be available later this year. Maybe we could put in a walkway by Doane Street. We will know more in a month or two. We could put in a walkway and bird viewing area.

New Business:

Recycling program. We could recycle PC and CRT's, cell phones. We could charge. We will do this after we are insured and 501c3 status. Steve G. would have to check with DCR to see if we could have a trailer in the park. Steve C said it is a truck that comes for a day to collect and is not a resident container. Steve C is currently spearheading this project.

Malcolm Nielson- Ames Nowell state park. Steve G is ranger over there as well. Currently in a neglected state, lots of trash, dumped cars. Malcolm is working to clean up the park to increase community use of the park. Over the past year trails have been improved and newer gates have been put up but still a lot of illegal ATV use in the park. Steve said there will be a seasonal staff the whole season, which will be the first year. They are hoping to get the bathrooms up and running. Malcolm told Steve he is willing to help out with any projects. Steve G said that DCR staffing in the SE region is improving at state parks so progress is being made. Andy suggested that Malcolm contact the local scout groups to help get involved with projects. Malcolm wants to start a Friends group eventually so until then we are sponsoring him in his efforts

Kevin Chichlowski- Brought Rt 66 series sign for races this season. He will be developing a race flyer for Landmine. Would like to include FOW flyer and proceeds to benefit FOW / Wompatuck. Can Chris work with Kevin on the flyer? Send Chris an e-mail. Chris could be liaison. Send Kevin an e-mail of our logo.

Eric will work on getting bumper stickers. Checking out costs? T-Shirt? Flyer?

SteveG- Said hunting area will be stocked with grouse and dead firewood is going to be collected around the park and some trails may need to be closed accordingly.

Motion to close meeting was made and seconded at 9:15 pm.

Next Meeting: April 18th, 2006.

Following Meeting: Then May 16th, 2006.

Issues to be discussed next meeting: park security, FOW promotion

Eric Oddleifson
FOW Secretary
Web Administrator

