



September 17, 2012

Minutes of Meeting

Present

Bill B. (President), Lars A. (Vice President), Jane G. (Treasurer), Sandy C. (Membership),
Tyler E. (Landmine and Adopt-A-Trail), Carl C. (VP Trails), Steve G. (Park Supervisor),
Susan Kane (DCR District Manager), Judy S. (FOW), David S. (FOW),
Ethan Comrie (Boy Scouts)

Number Present: 11

Meeting convened at 7:00 P.M.

Minutes are presented in Agenda Order

Opening Remarks and Introductions (Bill B.)

Bill welcomed everyone and all present were introduced. Steve G. introduced Susan Kane, DCR District Manager. Susan was invited to the FOW meeting to see the group in operation and to report progress being made in addressing ongoing issues with Wompatuck. Steve says she is doing a remarkable job in improving areas of her district (Harbor Islands, Nantasket Beach for example). There are plans underway for improvements at Wompatuck, also.

VP Report (Lars)

Lars will report later under new business

Secretaries Report

Pam was not here this evening, but her August Secretary's Report was unanimously accepted.

Treasurer's Report (Jane)

Jane reported we have \$28,895.40 in our account. She also gave a preliminary report on the Landmine Race. To date we have receipts of \$20,960.90 and expenses of \$7,888.52. This does not include invoices for the glassware, Root66, and assorted expenses to be reimbursed to FOW members. Hopefully, a final report will be given at the October meeting.

Membership Report (Sandy)

Sandy reported there are 121 members to date. At this time last year there were less than 100. It was decided to continue the discussion of December 31st renewal date to the October meeting. Discussion will include suggestions from Alma.

Eagle Scout Project (Ethan Comrie Troop 19 Weymouth)

Ethan's project to rebuild and improve the bridal bridge at N23 and N24 was approved last night and he is now ready to begin. He showed us his plan and says he will have 15 – 30 people (including some professionals) helping him. Ethan will be using any FOW materials he needs and we will be funding the rest of his project.

Landmine

All were pleased with over 500 (just) riders and at least 35 registered kids (not all had registered so there were more) making Landmine the 2nd largest race in N.E. The number of racers was very good considering there was a cycle cross race the same day. The feedback was positive from every direction. It was hard to find an area that needed even a small amount of correction. Kudos were given to many, especially Tyler (race director), Pam (registration), Carl (Parking and the Kids Race), the timers, Eric (getting results posted), all the people who worked on preparing and marking the trails for the race, Scouts at feed zones and Scouts feeding the masses at South Field. Kevin for everything he brings, the T-Shirts and his expertise. Lars for the maps. There are so many more unsung heroes of the day.

The results were posted by 1:40 and the awards ceremony began about two o'clock. In the future the goal is to have first results ready by 2:00 and all awards given out by 3:00.

There were many topics discussed about improving areas of the race. It was decided to table decisions until next spring when discussion will begin for the 2013 Landmine.

Some of the topics are:

Entry fees in general and should students, Hingham or otherwise pay nothing or half price. John Rice of Hingham High School and his students help at the PMC Kids Race.

Race course – trail marking and condition were excellent – how can we prevent some vandalism that occurred.

Food at feed zones may be changed a bit – less soda, salted food, more water, bananas, candy

Larger board for race results

Someone to answer questions from race participants

Put info about race in kiosks before race to notify area residents and park users

More area for parking

More area for tent row and a tent for spectators

A large Preregistration sign

Improve directions to South Field

Discuss prize glassware (shot glasses)

Change timing of preparing trails for race (more groups to go out closer to race day)

Further comments on race

It was decided to send a check for \$300 to NE Bike Patrol of their contribution of First Aid

It was decided to make Niklas Weikert an honorary member for being the videographer for the race. He is currently creating a video from what he shot at the race.

It was decided to give \$200 to Chris Dempsey, part time employee of Kevin's, who took approximately 500 still pictures at the race. Chris is a full time photographer and did this as a favor to Kevin and FOW. Some of these pictures will be placed on Facebook and YouTube as PR for the race. Chris will be mentioned as photographer and hopefully this will bring opportunities to him also. Maybe these pictures could be put on an individual's Facebook page

Carl said he has plenty of help with the Kids race but could use more help with parking.

Carl would like a tagline for the race

The marking of the trail and taping for wrong way was perfect, also the red Ws

Lars said the trails held up very well – no puddles or mud, just damp – just need to fix more bridges for next year

Old Business

Steve said there will be no interpretive program this fall busing students to Wompatuck. The Lotteros were concerned with EEE and decided not to come to Massachusetts. Susan said she may be able to get us help with the program next year. It is too late for this year.

Eric Dresser emailed Hingham Community Access Media had changed the two person rule for membership. Now any member of an organization may use the equipment as long as it is to be used for that organization. We are joining HCAM.

New Business

Steve has made a new trail between N22 and N23

Bill mentioned Massasoit Park is in poor condition. There is no longer anyone there to take care of it. Bill is going to try to get a group together to repair or replace a crucial bridge there.

Steve suggested painting the wood on bridges with marine paint with sand in it. It was decided to try this paint on one of the bridges. Steve is going to find out what it is and buy enough for one bridge. If it is successful we will use this paint on all bridges.

Lars says Dane Tullock from REI has gear to give to nonprofit organizations. Qualified recipients will receive \$300 worth of REI "stuff". Lars will select merchandise for FOW. Also, REI and The Trustees of Reservations will be hosting a stewardship round table discussion at The Bradley Estate in Canton on October 24th. Topics will be stewardship and volunteerism of our outdoor spaces. Bill B. and Steve G. will attend.

The next meeting will be Monday, October 15th. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by Jane G.