



July 2015 Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 20th, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Steve Cobble, who notified the group gathered that Bill Boles (President), Lars Ahlzen (Vice President), and Carolanne Brown (Secretary) would not be able to make it. While there was no formal agenda, Steve C. offered to lead the meeting.

There were **twelve people in attendance**: Steve Cobble, Gary MacKinnon (Treasurer), Brad Sands (acting Park Supervisor), Alex Hall (DCR), Steve Gammon, Carl Casale (TrailWatch), Wayne Strohm, Sandy Cole (Membership), Vicki Schow (Website/Landmine), LiLi Schow, and KaiXin Schow.

Welcome

Steve C. welcomed Wompatuck's new acting park supervisor, Brad Sands, to his first Friends of Wompatuck meeting.

REI Grant

Steve G. gave the group an update on the status of the new boat launch area we are constructing with grant money from REI. He said a shipping container is being purchased and the roadside is being prepared for parking. The bulkhead for the ramp was already poured and the float, gangway, etc. are underway. Picnic tables have also been built to be located at this site and Brad S. was asked to check on the status of bike racks that had been previously requested through DCR. Gary M. reported that the five kayaks approved for purchase at a prior meeting had been acquired and are already being used for park programming.

DCR Staffing

Brad S. reported that Wompatuck is understaffed for the summer.

Treasurer Report

Gary M. reported that we received the \$30,000 grant check from REI and that on 6/30, our account was \$55,797, though we had some checks out now.

Landmine

Vicki S. announced that on Thursday, August 6 at 7PM there will be a Landmine planning meeting at Bikebarn. Anyone is welcome, though this one will be largely for team leaders.

Additionally, two Landmine specific Trail Care Days are being planned for Sunday, August 16th and Sunday, August 30th in coordination with Bikebarn. There was discussion about trail conditions and bridges and the consensus was that the trails are in good condition, other than needing to be cut back for the race. Carl C. said that the mesh on the last bridge in the race course (before the berm/near South Field) was tearing again. Vicki S. will investigate this and organize a team to repair it if needed. There was also discussion about the best way to prepare South Field for race parking. Steve G. requested that Brad S. request someone with a loader operator's license be on hand to help fix the field on Aug. 30th. We will then send out a team to flag the holes and scoop fill. Carl C. reminded the group that we still have \$4,000 approved to use to expand South Field.

Vicki S. also reported that the pint glasses, cowbells, stakes, and porta-potties have been ordered for the race.

Vicki S. also brought up the course/map issue again. Without a volunteer to spearhead the effort to find a new 25 mile course that incorporates the new Annex Area trails, we will use the old course. Wayne S. offered that he thought that might be best since some of the new trails are spongy still. However, Steve G. and Steve C. thought the new trails would be a great addition to the course. Steve G. offered to identify a new 25 mile course that would include the new trails and then pass on the information to Lars A. to check the distance and mapping.

AmeriCorps

The 2015 AmeriCorps team built three new kiosks in Wompatuck and also repaired others.

Citizens Bank

Gary M. said that during a recent visit to our bank he ended up in a conversation with a branch manager about corporate sponsorship. Gary M. described his past work in securing such relationships with other organizations (e.g. the Brockton Rox) and asked if FOW or DCR would have any interest in him continuing the conversation. Steve G. provided information about how DCR has become much more open to corporate sponsorship on state land and offered that he thought a playground funded by Citizens Bank would be a great project to consider. Now with the support and approval of FOW, Gary M. said he would continue the conversation to see if it might go anywhere.

Trails

Concern about our lack of a formal trail boss for Friends of Wompatuck was discussed. Steve G. offered to take this role in his retirement and organize Trail Care days. Steve's ability to still operate a chainsaw in Wompatuck in his retirement was discussed. Steve G. reported that he can still operate the chainsaw, under the discretion of the park supervisor, as long as he signs a volunteer form on each occasion since he has recognized chainsaw training. Carl C. offered that he thought someone else had also been asked to be the trail boss. No votes on this were taken, but Steve G.'s offer remains on the table.

Wayne S. said that we should also order additional buckets. The funds to do so had been previously approved but no one has completed that task. Carl C. said he would find out where he got the last ones and Steve C. offered to execute on the purchase.

Wayne S. asked where the gas tank and reflective tape he had purchased prior to the June meeting ended up. Steve G. said it was likely in the DCR offices and Brad S. was asked to look for them.

TrailWatch

Carl C. came with new TrailWatch t-shirts. Steve G. raised the need to convene a TrailWatch meeting soon and to identify who is still on this team. He also said that we need to again formalize the reporting system so reports are provided to the Brad S. in a timely and accessible manner.

Steve G. requested that both Brad S. and Alex H. join the FOW Facebook page since a lot of reporting occurs via that forum. Steve G. also asked that the link for the TrailWatch Word Document report also be recirculated to enable easy reporting and a way for Brad S. to track volunteer hours in the park.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM with a motion by Steve G. and seconded by Sandy C.

These meeting minutes were recorded by Vicki Schow