



February 22, 2010

Minutes of Meeting

Present Lars A. (Vice President), Pam J. (Secretary), Jane G. (Treasurer), Vicki S. (Webmistress), Mark S. (Landmine Race Director), Tyler E. (VP for Trails), Sandy C. (Membership), Steve G. (Park Supervisor), Donald C. (FOW), Wayne S. (FOW), Sandy F. (FOW)

Number present: 11

Meeting convened at 7:05 PM

Opening Remarks and Introductions

Lars chaired the meeting as Bill was unable to attend. All present introduced themselves. Although Pam sent a notice on Feb. 12th to remind FOW members that the meeting date had been changed due to the holiday, a request was made to send the reminder closer to the meeting date. The request was duly noted.

VP Report (Lars)

Lars did not have any news to report.

Secretary's Report (Pam)

All present confirmed that they had received both parts of the minutes from the January 25th meeting from Alma and Pam. No corrections were offered. A motion was made and seconded; the vote was unanimous to accept the minutes of the prior meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Jane)

Jane reported that there is not much financial activity. The current balance in the account is \$13,145.55. Jane distributed a detailed report of current income and expenses. Vicki asked if the permit check for the race has been cashed by the state. As of the last statement it had not been cashed; Jane will watch for the transaction.

Membership (Sandy)

Sandy reported that there are two new memberships: 1 single and 1 family. Often people do not included their email addresses on the forms. Sandy will call the new members for contact information. Sandy will also get in touch with Bill Boles regarding the 13 members who are due for renewal to determine if these members should be contacted again.

Webpage Report (Vicki)

Vicki has put a link on the website to join the email list, which provides a link to the yahoo website. She will be launching a Landmine page soon. Vicki said that the “discussion group” is available on yahoo and is a networking tool to let FOWers know when someone is heading out to work on a trail or go for a ride. Vicki will put the information on how to join the email group on the banner page of the FOW website for now.

Trails Report (Tyler)

When Tyler last rode two weeks ago the trails were all ice; one large tree is down and Steve G. is aware. Don and Wayne rode last weekend on the roads, but did note that the trails are getting soft. Tyler noted that the bridge at NW5 that Mark and Vicki worked on with the anti-slip materials looks good. He noted that the planks on the bridge are uneven. Discussion addressed concerns that as the planks move, the anti-slip material may buckle leaving exposed edges. The bridge will be monitored.

Note was made that this bridge is NOT a horse bridge and question was raised about adding signage at bridges to warn equestrians.

Carl C. (absent) sent Pam an email reporting on icy trails on the Cape, Massasoit and Duxbury.

Landmine Race Report (Mark)

Mark and Vicki prepared a ¼ page ad for the publication, “Single Tracks”, a NEMBA magazine that reaches a readership of about 4,500 people. The Landmine 2010 race will be held on September 12, 2010. Mark would like to run the ad in three issues prior to the race: April/May, June/July, and August/September. The fee for all 3 issues is \$513 and is paid to NEMBA.

Discussion ensued regarding how to “name” the shortest planned 6-mile course. Consensus was reached that “Novice” was a better term than “First Timers” to encourage participation by all riders who would prefer to ride the shorter distance and not feel conflicted if they were not, in fact, “First Timers”.

Question was raised on the use of the term, “epic”, as being potentially intimidating. The point was made that the race is meant to be exciting and all agreed that “epic” aptly describes Landmine.

Question was raised as to whether or not an ad should be placed in the national publication, “Dirt Rag”. Mark said they are not trying to double the size of the race and that the readership group in “Single Tracks” is the best target group.

A motion was made and seconded to provide the \$513 to pay for the ad in three “Single Tracks” issues; vote was unanimous.

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Old Business

Muck Truck and Trail Grant

Steve G. reported that we have a muck truck! The “almost new” muck truck was acquired using funds from a NEMBA Trail Grant. The balance of funds will be used for timber, a shed, and tools. The muck truck has the NEMBA and FOW logos emblazoned on the side and will be a great asset to the park. We will get a photo of the muck truck and post it on the website. Steve G. will work with Steve Cobble regarding the delivery of the shed.

Trail Days 2010

Lars worked with Bill B. and Steve C. to develop the list of Trail Care days/events. This list was given to Dane at REI to be posted for REI employees. Suggestion was made for Pam to send Trail Care event notices to the membership through both the FOW membership group and the Wompy Friends discussion group. Steve G. will be in touch with Pam in case of inclement weather the day prior to the event; Pam will notify the members by email if the event is going to be cancelled. Sandy F. will create a flyer and post it around town listing the dates for Trail Care. Sandy said she will also get the information to Hingham High School to promote community service. Bill Boles will post the dates on the NEMBA calendar. Sandy C. said the HS has 18 new mountain bikes and we should work to recruit the students to participate in the Trail Care events.

Discussion ensued regarding high school volunteers for Landmine on the Trail Care notice. Decision was made to wait until the race is closer, and that an effort should be made to recruit high school students to work either an AM or PM shift, and to be sure we have enough people working later in the day to help with clean up.

Steve G. mentioned that there were a few Cohasset students who were going to work on building a boardwalk bog bridge at the Doane Street entrance. That effort did not work out. This could be a great project for the March 14th Trail Care event.

Trail Care Days:	March 14	(Sunday)
	April 10	(Saturday)
	April 24	(Saturday – Park Serve Day?)
	June 5	(Saturday – National Trails Day)
	July 18	(Sunday)
	August 21	(Saturday)
	November 6	(Saturday)

GPS Biking/Hiking Tracks

Lars shared a prototype of a GPS track that can be developed and posted on the website for park users, both riders and hikers. The beauty of this type of recommendation is that if a particular track starts to show wear, you can “un-post” the GPS track. Suggestions were made to include intersection markers to coincide with trail markers on the Wompatuck map and to make note that trail markers are posted on the North side of the trail heads. Suggestion was also made to include a link from the FOW website to instructions on how to use the GPS tracks and to post a “Ride-of-the-Month”. Lars will continue working on this project.

Pump Track

All agreed that the effort to build a Pump Track would be expensive, labor intensive, require significant on-going maintenance, and would only serve a small group of park users. Other projects, such as repairing and building bridges, should take priority. Note was made that there are many great natural “play grounds” in the park that provide challenge and appeal to some riders. Steve G. reminded the group that digging is NOT allowed in the park and that any improvements, such as bridge or jump building, needs to be approved by him (Park Supervisor) prior to commencing work.

Ant-Slip Bridge Effort

Please refer to the Trails Report section for discussion of this agenda item.

Next Meeting Date

March 15, 2010.

Final Remarks

All present wished Vicki and Mark all the best on the upcoming birth of their first child! She will arrive prior to the next FOW meeting! (New member?)

Jane successfully guessed the contents of the brown bag and won, compliments of Steve G., a bag of clams!

And there you have it, a few more reasons why YOU should attend the next meeting of the Friends of Wompatuck!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Pam Johnson
FOW Secretary