

## FOW May Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Eric O., Steve C., Bill B, Andy M., Chris H., Steve G., Jim R., Mark C, Bob (Womp seasonal supervisor), Ron Cleft

Minutes from last meeting are accepted. Motion to accept approved unanimously by those present.

### **Officers Report:**

**Bill Boles-President**

**Steve Cobble- Vice President**

**Chris Hebert- Treasurer**

**Eric Oddleifson- Secretary**

Bill- Plans are going ahead with NEMBAfest on June 11th. See [www.friendsofwompatuck.org](http://www.friendsofwompatuck.org) for more details. Bill has an initial ride course which he will share with Steve G. NEMBAfest will have three loops: beginner, intermediate, and a hero's ride that will be the most difficult. It will run out of South Field. Gate will be open the day before. There will be a long Mtn. Bike ride Sat night before NEMBAfest.

REI project is currently being reviewed by DCR engineering. Next step will be to involve head of DCR to help speed up the process. Steve G. will contact her.

Steve- FOW Stickers. Need to decide if we are going to order adhesive on the front or back and if the stickers will be clear or black on white. Group voted unanimously to accept the motion to order 1000 stickers, black and white on a white background with adhesive on the front..

Steve and a friend made a transition off of a large boulder with Steve G.'s permission to give mountain bikers more challenging terrain. Steve G. is concerned about rider safety. He says the actual trail has to be accessible to the general mountain biker. If riders want to go off the big drops they can but it cannot be officially a 'trail' b/c park could be liable. Steve G. would like to meet with the Trail Committee to review the possibility of a free ride trail at Womp. Steve G. and Steve C will get together to set up a walk through and inform the membership when that will take place.

Chris- Checking balance is \$1, 583.34. Treasurer's report accepted by the membership.

Eric- We received our IMBA group activity policy so we are covered for FOW events . If we were to charge a fee to the public or the event included a large number of people we would need to purchase special event coverage at \$150 per event. Also, participants at FOW sponsored events will need to sign a waiver of liability form. Bill B. said we can use NEMBA's form and change the wording.

Brochure's are being stocked at the VC and the camping ground entrance building. Eric will

print the next batch of brochure's on his home computer to save funds. We currently have 15 members. Eric contacted the lawyer who is working on the 501c3 application for us. He said they are just beginning and will require extensive input from FOW.

### **Old Business:**

Kiosks- 3 of 4 have been put in. Steve G. will get the Plexiglas, We could use wooden strip to frame in. Andy has joined the kiosk team with Eric and Chris. He has woodworking experience. Chris said he spotted good map holders with Plexiglas front. Andy would like to make a fire / danger warning sign to put on the back of the kiosk in the upper VC lot. He will bring it in for the next meeting.

Atomic Bunker Update- Press release was sent out to 40 contacts thanks to Andy. Ledger is going to do a story this weekend. Work has started on the bunker. Colby is doing the history and the garden and is looking for supplies and donations.

Dan Benza is doing the painting so he is looking for paint and primer.

Tim Benza is in charge of the ramp which will be made out of concrete.

These scouts are responsible for all aspects of this project but FOW has agreed to provide some monetary assistance for the project.

Bill Boles made a motion to give funds now to the project. The group agreed to give \$120. Voted unanimously and passed the notion.

Steve G. said he could also buy some of these items.

Ron suggested to Andy he check with the Charlestown Navy Yard. Jim R. said Contact is Phil Hunt. They may have photos of this bunker we could get.

Jim R. gave the group some history on the bunker and the nuclear weapons, ASROC, that were stored there. He said the bombs would be taken by truck to Bare Cove then placed on the war ships.

Disc Golf Trail- Walk through has not happened but Steve G. but has talked to Borderland State Park rangers about the project. Problems were identified including littering, drinking and overuse of land. Steve wants to see where they want to put the course / trail. Steve has to present to regional supervisor. Make this a continuing item on the agenda. Bill was asked to make NEMBA the monetary receptacle and NEMBA said that was fine. Before collecting money they have to get permission to actually do a course. They need to organize their committee and do a walk through as the next step.

## **New Business:**

Steve C: He is going to plant flowers in front of the guard house.

Eric- Marked Loops; Eric suggested creating color coded loops of different lengths to help park users more easily access the trail network. Steve G. has concerns about creating a mountain bike trail b/c too many people would end up using the same trail creating a lot of damage. He suggested a bridle, dog walker, and family walk trail. Ron suggested starting these trails here. Steve G. recommends we take this to the trails committee. Trails committee needs to meet after main summer events. Trail committee will report back to FOW during the summer.

FOW press release- Will Jeff Cutler be willing to write a press release for FOW? Andy is willing to send out.

Web site requests- Steve G.-Just after July 1st there will be tree cutting in the park which will require the closing of some trails. Trail b/t NW4-5.

Problem in the park a couple of weeks ago. Broke down annex fence and 18 swastikas were painted around the park. Steve has painted them all over now. We could put something on the FOW site to please do not go in the annex, don't take the fence down, etc. Park is hoping to get money to take down the buildings back there.

Steve G.- The drinking fountain/ water supply are going to be replaced this summer. HE and his crew will begin work on the bridge behind Prospect hill in preparation for the Trail Maintenance Day in June

Andy- Collected \$50 for FOW.

Jim R.- Have an Indian pow wow as a way to create some money for the park. Andy knows a native American who is involved in pow wows. He will contact her this summer to explore.

Motion to adjourn made at 9:02. Group unanimously agreed.

Next meeting is on June 13th. Following Meeting will be July 18th. Both will start at 7 pm.

Respectfully,

Eric Oddleifson  
FOW Secretary