



Friends of Wompatuck
September 2015 Meeting Minutes

Monday 9/21/2015

Items are in the order presented at the meeting.

Present: Bill Boles (president), Gary MacKinnon (treasurer), Carl Casale (TrailWatch), Steve Gammon, Tim Friedman, Mark Schow (race director), Vicki Schow (race director/webmaster), LiLi Schow, KaiXin Schow, Wayne Strom, Sandy Cole (membership).

Opening remarks

The meeting convened at approximately 7:05 pm, by President Bill Boles who noted that the race was a success and thanked all the volunteers, especially the race directors Mark and Vicki Schow.

Secretary's report

The secretary was not present. Lars volunteered to take notes. The last meeting's minutes were approved with no discussion.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Gary MacKinnon noted that we have approximately \$51,000 in the bank, of which part is a grant from REI.

Expenses to date for the Landmine race were \$12,939 and gross income from the race \$22,368, for a net income (to date) of \$9,432. It was noted that these numbers were similar to last year's race, from which the FOW earned about \$9k after all expenses.

Gary reported that some items (kayaks, some life vests, whistles, waterproof bags) have been purchased. BillB will try to find/purchase kids' life vests which turned out to be hard to find at a reasonable cost.

Landmine race report

Race directors Mark and Vicki noted that the numbers were down slightly from last year – about 40 fewer racers. It was thought that this may have to do with the rainy weather, a cyclocross season that starts earlier, and many competing events during the Landmine weekend. Notably, there was a ~20% reduction in marathon and pro, but almost double the number of participants in the fat bike category. Total number of racers was 449, plus 20 no-shows and the participants in the kids race.

Not all prizes were paid out because there were not enough racers in a few categories.

The course appeared to have been the best marked course so far with few or no complaints, and several compliments from racers. The race directors wanted to thank many volunteers for putting in countless hours arrowing and preparing the race.

It was noted that there was some vandalism prior to the race with torn down arrows. A discussion of possible ways to combat this problem followed.

The number plates did not hold up as well as hoped. Vicki is looking into this.

Sales of T-shirts (almost all sold), glasses and posters were record high.

The photographer and videographer did a great job and produced very quick results, which was appreciated by many racers.

The new feed zone layout worked mostly very well.

The conclusion of the discussion was that it was another very successful event.

Membership report

Sandy reported no news on membership.

Membership letter

Sandy had prepared a draft letter to remind people of what we do, explain that we will no longer be collecting annual dues, and encourage members to continue to donate. Sandy read the draft letter out loud, which was well received. Sandy will send the draft to the officers and other interested members.

Reservoir cleanup

Gary has prepared a reservoir cleanup event for Saturday 9/26. Flyers have been put up around the park and with REI. A note was submitted to the newspaper. Gary will bring kayaks and some required equipment for the event. Some specifics were discussed.

Citizens bank

Gary noted that after a discussion with the VP of citizens bank in Hingham, there may be a possibility of a longer-term sponsorship/partnership with the FOW. Some ideas were mentioned, such as bulletin boards, benches, kiosks etc. Gary would like to write a proposal letter for such a sponsorship. This would most likely be for the next fiscal year. SteveG noted that there may be limitations on what sponsorship is acceptable in DCR parks, and would invite DCR representatives to the next meeting for discussion.

Maps

Lars noted that the new full-size park maps should be here any day. A batch of temporary 8.5x11" maps were prepared and printed in the interim. A proposal to fund updated poster-sized maps for the kiosks, visitor center, campground and FOW meeting room was approved.

Whitney Woods trail work

Steve Gammon had prepared the material for a future trail work day to build a bridge in Whitney Woods on a trail near Bigelow Boulder. The Whitney/Thayer woods supervisor is supportive of this. The date November 7 was picked for this trail day.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 9:10 pm.

These meeting minutes were recorded by Lars Ahlzen.