



October 17, 2011

Minutes of Meeting

Present

Bill B. (President), Pam J. (Secretary), Jane G. (Treasurer), Sandy C. (Membership), Tyler E. (Landmine), Lars A. (VP), Tom V. (FOW), John K. (BSD), Don C. (FOW), Wayne S. (FOW)

Number present: 10

Meeting convened at 7:04 PM

Minutes are presented in Agenda order.

Opening Remarks and Introductions (President Bill Boles)

Bill welcomed everyone and all present introduced themselves.

VP Report (Lars)

Lars reported that the trails are really nice right now, a little muddy, but nice. He will present additional information as we move through the agenda, including bridge branding and NEMBA grant support.

Secretary's Report (Pam)

Pam thanked Jane for taking the minutes last month. With no corrections offered, a motion was made and seconded to accept the September Secretary's Report; the vote was unanimous to accept.

Treasurer's Report (Jane)

Jane reported that the current balance in the FOW account is \$28,888.96. She reported that there are a few more bills to pay for Landmine, but to date the net receipts are \$9,902.14. Jane added that all sponsors for the new FOW map have paid. Simms Brothers made a \$500 donation again this year. Tyler mentioned that there may be an invoice to FOW that should be forwarded to *bikebarn*. We do not have an invoice from Pilgrim Paving for the pot hole repair. Mass Bay Road Club (MBRC) will most likely split that bill with FOW. A check will have to be cut for the Weymouth Schools donation for the bus fees for the naturalist program (\$750). DCR retracted an invoice for a Park Ranger for Landmine; no Ranger was at the race. A motion was made and seconded to accept the September Treasurer's Report; the vote was unanimous to accept.

Membership (Sandy)

Sandy reported there are currently 106 members. Sandy will continue to work on renewals. A motion was made and seconded to accept the September Membership Report; the vote was unanimous to accept.

Webpage Report (Vicki – via email from China!)

Here is my website update for Monday's meeting:

1. I replaced the old Wompy map with the new FOW/Lars map. The new map looks great!
2. I posted notices of the new map on the homepage and under Recent News.
3. I added information about FOW's support of the Big Yellow Bus Project to the Recent News page.

4. I added information on the Boston Snow Dogs Dec. 3rd event/public demonstration to the FOW calendar and to the dog sledding activities page. Note: this event is already permitted by DCR.
5. All minutes are up to date on the website.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the September Webpage Report; the vote was unanimous to accept.

Landmine 2011 Follow Up (Tyler)

Tyler reported that a few items were addressed at the follow up meeting at *bikebarn*: no tear caution tape; staging changes; pricing increases across the board; price increase for day of registration; get Bike Reg tech support hours in case of emergency; continue to close pre-reg at noon on Friday. Tyler is working on updates to the Race Manual; Pam will add Registration instructions. We will need a “Results Coordinator” volunteer for next year to handle questions about timing on race day. Pam will get Tyler all pre-reg race forms; Tyler will add to the email list. Tyler and his crew will also work with Root66 to increase promotion for next year.

Adopt-A-Trail Report (Tyler)

Tyler and Tom V. will continue working on this program for a Spring 2012 launch.

NEMBA Trail Building School (Lars and Bill)

Lars has written a letter of support for NEMBA to secure a National Recreation Trail Grant for a two day Trail Builder School to be held in 2013. A state committee makes grant and funding decisions. Lars has attended a Trail Builder school and reported that he learned good techniques for building and repairing trails and bridges. In addition, Bill reported that when we attend the school, our trained crew leaders will then be able to pass those skills and knowledge along during Trail Care events at Wompy.

Womp-A-Turkey 11/6 (Bill)

MBRC is sponsoring the Womp-A-Turkey ride on November 6th, starting between 8 and 8:30 AM. This is a fun event, and if you are an MBRC member, you have a chance to draw a poker hand to win great prizes! Tyler requested that we remind MBRC organizers to PLEASE remove the pink streamers when the event is over! Thank you MBRC in advance!

Trail Care Planning (Bill for Carl)

The next Trail Care event is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th. Bill will contact Carl, Steve G. and Steve Cobble for recommendations on work projects. One project still on the list is moving the equestrian bridge.

Wompy Map, Sponsors & Advertising (Lars)

Lars reported that the new Wompy map is finished and copies have been distributed to REI and *bikebarn*. The map is amazing! We should also bring copies to EMS. Tyler also asked if we can get the contact person at EMS for event planning. Pam thinks Chris Bonzagno may be the contact person; Sandy said he will drop by and ask EMS if they would like to join FOW as a corporate member. Discussion side-tracked to Landmine and the decision that corporate attendees should be there to support the racers as opposed to promoting commercial sales. Before the race next year, Tyler will be sure all corporate attendees are aware of this policy.

Old Business

The “Big Yellow Bus” Project

We received the following email from Ed and Pam Lottero:

As previously planned, we have earmarked \$250 of your donation for Weymouth Public Schools. Today's bad weather rescheduled a field trip, so that money will be needed by them. To date, no other town has shown an interest in the program. The other two \$250 awards remain unclaimed. We continue inform teachers and schools, in person, by social media, and on our website. With the Friends' permission, at the end of October, we will award any unclaimed portion of your \$750 donation to Weymouth Schools. By then, Weymouth's entire fifth grade class, over 500 students, will have taken part in Wompatuck's student naturalist project.

A motion was made and seconded to award the unclaimed portion of the \$750 donation to Weymouth Schools as requested; the vote was unanimous to accept.

New Business

Friends Network

Bill will attend the Friends Network meeting on October 22nd. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Bill. He will bring our new map, our FOW brochure and FOW posters.

Bridge Branding Alternative

Lars showed samples of a “chemical burn” process for branding bridges. Using a stencil and a heat gun, the result is a beautiful FOW brand “burned” onto a plank. Lars will bring these samples to the next meeting for Steve G. to see.

Boston Snow Dogs

John invited all to attend a Snow Dog demonstration on December 12th at the Wompatuck Visitor Center. There will be dogs, wheeled equipment, and sleds; a team will be hitched up to demonstrate dog sledding in action. John also commented on the terrific addition for sledding on the FOW webpage.

Pick Up After Your Dog Signs

John reported that locals who live near and use the Doane Street entrance continue to notice a significant reduction in the amount of dog waste following the installation of the sign in Cohasset to clean up after your pet. While DCR did not want to install signs at park locations, Bare Cove has installed the signs. The American Kennel Club (AKC) has expressed an interest in sponsoring signs and the effort to encourage responsible dog owner actions. John will monitor feedback and successes for the signs with the hope of approaching DCR again in the future.

Use of FOW Funds for Park Projects

Jane opened the important discussion of how FOW funds should be spent. We have money that could and should be allocated to large projects beyond the scope of trail care activities. A lively discussion ensued and the group identified a number of projects that should be considered: Doane Street repair; So. Pleasant St. trail repair; benches in the park; paving the entrance to the park; campground splash pad; Wompatuck Museum at the Transfer Station or the Visitor Center; expansion of South Field; finish the connector trail. Bill will put this discussion topic on for the next FOW meeting. Pam will ask all members to think about projects that should be considered via email to the membership group.

Gate Closure and Parking Lot Issue

Wayne and Don reported that they saw a green Jeep driven onto the large rock in the main parking lot near the Visitor Center. They have license plate information for the vehicle; they did not approach the people in the vehicle. They also reported that the gate was only partly closed after the designated time. Comment was made that the park attendant will “sweep” the park prior to locking the gate for the night to be sure everyone is out.

Important Dates

November 5th: Trail Care Event
November 6th: MBRC Womp-A-Turkey
November 21st: FOW Monthly Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:33 PM. Everyone enjoyed a piece of birthday fruit on their way out!

Respectfully submitted by:

Pam Johnson, Secretary