

**MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF OPOSSUM LAKE CONSERVANCY
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING : May 4, 2006**

Invited Guests: Tom Ford, PFBC; Don Lauver Regional Waterways Conservation Officer; Stephanie Williams, Cumberland County Planning Commission; Dave Bachman, Lower Frankford Township Supervisor.

Steering Committee Members: John Alden, Steve Fealtman, Ed Franco, Mary Franco, Cindy Criswell, Gary Criswell, Wayne DeMoss, Hal Gardner, Cheryl Pauli, Jan Ruby, Ruben Lao, Ron Kutz, Karen Finkenbinder, Steve Kuhn(YMCA)

Introductions:

Tom Ford PFBC: Director of Policy , Planning, and Operations presented the Adopt an Access Program for FOLC's consideration. Adopt an Access is a two year agreement with the PFBC which allows a group to regularly maintain and clean up Fish Commission Property. At this time it was agreed that FOLC would Adopt Opossum Lake through the Access Program but only commit to trash pick up, and other periodic clean up projects and not take on regular mowing. If there are other specific projects (tree cutting, water lilly transplanting, we may bundle these projects together and write to Tom to request permission for the list of activities. We will deal with the Anglers Access Trail under a separate ongoing agreement.

Ron Kutz asked for clarification regarding any protections volunteers might have in the event of an injury, both in terms of liability and their own personal injury.

Tom agreed to clarify these issues and get back to us before any major projects are undertaken. The program should include safety orientation. Karen Finkenbinder can provide Hazardous Materials Guidelines.

Don Lauver, Southcentral Regional Law Enforcement Director described the role of his permanent and volunteer enforcement officers. Don's Contact information is: Southcentral Regional Law Enforcement Headquarters, 1704 Pine Road, Newville, Pa. 17241. Office open M-F 8:30-4 486-7087. For routine reports of vandalism or other problems contact the office. After hours, or in the event of any emergency or major crime problem call 911.

We should routinely notify Don's office when we plan any large events or clean up days so that his staff is aware. Don noted that the George Comp is the maintenance staff member who will be mowing at Opossum every two weeks. Don's office also receives Special Events Requests.

Stephanie Williams, CC Planning Commission noted that the Land Partnership Program received 49 applications totaling 1.8 million for the 1 million available. Ed Franco briefly described FOLC's application for \$8,075 from the program to be matched by \$8,820 in inkind and labor representing 48% of the total project cost for an Anglers Access Trail Around the Lake. Decisions will be made in June. Upon approval, FOLC would receive 50% of the county funds to begin the project and 50% when the project is completed.

A larger grant application under Growing Greener II Was also received by the county from Lower Frankford Township. Stephanie will discuss with the County Commssioners their willingness to forward a letter of support to Governor Rendell.

Steve Feltman, Cindy Criswell & Jan Ruby updated the group on the great progress that has been made on both the website www.opossumlakefriends.org - and a PowerPoint presentation to be used for public information and at meetings where we might recruit new members. John Alden noted that a press release will go out on Monday regarding both the web site and the upcoming 1st membership meeting at 7 pm on Thursday May 18th at 1205 Easy Road.

Cindy and Steve have graciously agreed to do a presentation to a neighborhood watch group in Upper Frankford Township on Tuesday May 9th.using the power point. The presentation will be available at the 18th meeting as well.

DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE STRUCTURE /Volunteer Chairpersons.

Executive Committee: Ed Franco

Media Relations: John Alden

Membership: Cindy Criswell (additional members needed)

Adopt an Access/Projects: Reuben Lao

Grants/Legislative Contacts:?? Currently no chair -

(Hal Gardner, Craig Houston, Craig Boyer, Other?)

Finance: Wayne DeMoss (additional members needed)

Fundraising: No Chair - a number of good ideas were put forward. Dependent on interest at membership meeting this committee could be formed. T shirts, bike ride, 10 k.

TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Thursday May 18th, 7 pm – 1205 Easy Road.

Introduction of the Agenda for the meeting: - Ed

Power Point Presentation : - FOLC , Steve, Cindy, Other?

Brief Presentation by each committee chair regarding the work of their committee, needs we have.

Sign up for committees.

Brief Explanation of Non Profit Corporation Status, BY Laws, and 501 c 3 application. Ed

Volunteer Nominations For Election to the Board of Directors of FOLC from paid membership present. Goal of 12-15 Board Members. I Could have a list of these names printed.

(NOTE: I am hoping that committee chairs would be willing to be board members, as well as most of our steering committee- please let me know if you do not wish to be a board member. Thanks).

Election of 12-15 Directors.

Organizational Board Meeting and election of officers of the Board by Board Members.

Setting a calendar of monthly board meetings, dates for major events, etc. Should we have a proposed calendar for this meeting or is it premature with the summer upon us ?