

Friends of Opossum Lake Conservancy (FOLC)

Board of Directors Meeting No. 1

May 25, 2006

The meeting, held at the home of Ed and Mary Franco, was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ed Franco, Acting Chair.

In attendance:

Ed Franco
Eric Melder
Hal Gardner
Karen Finkenbinder
Wayne DeMoss
John Alden
Steve Fealtman

Ruben Lao
Craig Boyer
Craig Houston
Mary Franco
Cheryl Pauli
Cindy Criswell

Absent: Gary Criswell
Joseph Horn
Steve Kuhn

The minutes of the General Membership meeting, held May 18, 2006 were approved as written.

General Discussion

- A.** After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend the By-Laws of FOLC as follows:

The Board of Directors will consist of a maximum of twenty (20) members with additional At-Large members to be determined by resolution of the Board.

Motion passed. The following members were elected to the Board of Directors: Jan Ruby, Eric Melder.

B. Calendar

The Board of Directors will meet on the third Thursday of each month with the following dates tentatively set for 2006 (all meetings at 7:00 pm unless stated otherwise):

FOLC Board of Directors Meeting No. 1

May 25, 2006

Page 2

June 15, 2006 (to be held at Karen Finkenbinder's home)

July 20, 2006

August 17, 2006

September 21, 2006

October 19, 2006

November 16, 2006

December meeting date TBD

Committee Reports

A. Treasurer's Report

Wayne DeMoss stated that he had no changes to report. However, at the meeting, he was given many membership fees to deposit by C. Criswell.

It was noted that a filing fee of \$150 is needed for the 501(3)(c) application. The Board must also submit an estimated budget for the next two years.

Steve Fealtman is to be reimbursed \$65 for the cost of the web site fee.

B. Membership Committee

C. Criswell reported that Wayne DeMoss will continue to pick up new member forms and payments at the township office weekly. Wayne will forward the membership forms to C. Criswell for addition to the membership data base and mailing lists.

After discussion, it was decided to list all new members on the web site alphabetically (names only).

A Membership Campaign is planned for one of two time periods in 2006 – either “back-to-school” or “holiday shopping” times. Coleen Russell, manager of The Pointe at Carlisle, has offered FOLC the use of the mall for activities.

The newsletter was discussed at length. Ideas for the newsletter will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Our logo at the top of the newsletter
- Welcome New Members! (list new members alphabetically)
- Invite others to join – new members needed to boost 501(3)(c) status
- Invitation to visit web site
- Short history of FOLC
- Short article on grants applied for and status (Ed Franco)
- Short article on trash pick-up (John Alden)

FOLC Board of Directors Meeting No. 1

May 25, 2006

Page 3

- Board of Directors listing
- Short synopsis of General Membership meeting on 5/18/06
- Speakers bureau available (Hal Gardner)
- Wish list of items needed (39-cent stamps, #10 envelopes, etc.)
- Thank you to Senator Vance and Rep. Gabig for hosting 4/13/06 meeting
- Short article on trail project (Ruben Lao)

A cost of approximately \$3.90/month or \$46.80/year was budgeted for postage for newsletters.

The possibility of having local printers donate the cost of color copying of the newsletter was discussed.

Craig Boyer suggested an informational handout to be placed in restaurants, banks, stores, etc., to help solicit new members and generally distribute information about FOLC. It was decided to use a bookmark size "take-along" on a stand-up backing which lists the web site address and C. Criswell's phone number for more information. These could also be given to school children and as handouts when doing presentations to groups. Karen Finkenbinder will check with the Prison Industries for prices on printing. Jan Ruby will design the backgrounds to be used.

C. Grants/Legislative Committee

Craig Houston stated that there is the possibility of a C2P2 grant (50/50 match if Lower Frankford Township commits) from DCNR. The application must be made through the township – deadline is 9/29/06.

A visit to the lake will be made the afternoon of 5/30/06 by Soil Conservation and US Fish & Wildlife to determine if FOLC is eligible for a habitat enhancement and wetlands grant using federal monies. Those interested in attending should contact Hal Gardner.

D. Media/Public Relations Committee

John Alden is preparing a media release on the 5/18/06 membership meeting. The release will contain children's viewpoints on the lake situation in addition to other information. It is scheduled for release to the media on 6/13/06.

John also stated that a press release will be issued approximately every three weeks.

Membership in the Carlisle Chamber of Commerce was discussed. Cost is \$210 for one year non-profit membership. Benefits include being listed on

Carlisle Chamber's web site and having all press releases posted on their web site. The Board voted to join the Chamber for one year on a trial basis. John Alden will be the primary point of contact with the Chamber. Members who wish to take part in the "meet and greet" events and breakfast programs organized by the Chamber should contact John. It was mentioned that it would be useful to have FOLC business cards to hand out at these events.

The \$210 Chamber membership will be added to the tentative two-year budget.

E. Projects/Adopt An Access Committee

Ruben Lao reported that he has tried repeatedly to contact Laurie Reamer, the state-wide PAF&BC safety coordinator for the Adopt An Access program, with no success to date. We should not schedule another trash pick-up until she completes an orientation with the Board - the Board will be trained to conduct future orientations.

The Safety Information and Liability Release form was reviewed and approved. Each person participating in an FOLC event must sign (parents/guardians must sign for minors as stated on the form). In regard to liability, FOLC can state that we have a written protocol and follow the written protocol.

When events are scheduled at the lake, we need to contact Don Lauver only and notify him. He will then notify others who may be on the lake property when the event is being held.

Eric Melder stated that he is able to bring a group of youths from Tressler Wilderness Care a few weekend to assist with clean up at the lake.

F. Fundraising Committee

The Board welcomed Eric Melder as a new Director. He will assist Karen Finkenbinder with fundraising ideas and events. Eric suggested making a connection with schools using the lake as environmental education for students as a good fundraising move.

Membership funds should continue to be solicited as much as possible.

Eric stated that FOLC needs to find an "-A-Thon" to raise funds.

It was noted that Senator Pat Vance has funds available from the "legislative initiative" monies (formerly described as WAMs) that she will release for community projects. We should contact her office to determine what might be available for FOLC.

G. Volunteer Tracking

Mary Franco will be the contact person for volunteer tracking. She will develop a database of volunteer hours accumulated for use in applying for grants, etc. Individuals should report to Mary when hours are spent working for FOLC projects.

H. Next Meeting of the Board of Directors (and any interested members)

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 7:00 pm at Karen and Mike Finkenbinder's home at 26 Little Road, Carlisle (bring a lawn chair!). Contact Karen at 258-9661 for directions.

I. Corrections and Additions

The above summation is our interpretation of the items discussed and the agreed decisions at the time of this meeting. Any person desiring to add to or modify these minutes is advised to submit comments in writing to the attention of the Secretary no later than five (5) days after receipt; otherwise, these minutes will remain as issued.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia E. Criswell
Secretary