

**FRIENDS OF TWIN LAKES
MARCH 10, 2012 MEETING**

Board Members in attendance: John Kester, President; Ric Altman, Vice President/Treasurer, At Large Representatives, Carl Wagner and Kelly Sweeney.

13 Total Attendees.

Rescheduled Wild Fire Mitigation Speaker

Damon Lange, forester in the Salida District had to reschedule his presentation due to illness. We hope to have him present at the April 14 meeting at 9:30 in the Twin Lakes Dance Hall.

Agenda Items

Annual Meeting Date (two seats on the board will need to be elected/reelected)
May 26, 2012 at 9:30 in the Twin Lakes Dance Hall.

Newsletter

Draft copies of the first edition of the FOTL Newsletter were distributed. Check the website soon for the posting.

Fire Issues

FOTL will work with the fire department to encourage and/or distribute signage for individual homes. The fire department will have the signage available for purchase and will assist in installing. We would like John K. to see if they could come following the annual meeting for those interested.

Further discussion was had regarding the need for a volunteer fire department and the cost of a special fire district. In order to get a volunteer body, the 240 hour training requirement needs to be reduced officially and we need to find out the training needed to pass their test. Also, although it may be several years out to establish a fire district, we need to start comparing mills to calculate reductions for Leadville and the rest of Lake County as well as corresponding increases for southern Lake County.

The Fire Department is getting a new Type 6 vehicle used for fighting brush fires. Even though the old truck would not be ideal for residential fires, we want to encourage the fire department to house the old Type 6 truck here to speed equipment to a local fire.

School House Lease

Progress has been made and it appears we could lease the school house for \$1 per year to use for events and meetings. The district requires that we have liability insurance. We are going to seek quotes; initial inquiries are looking at a cost from \$300 to \$500 per year. We will need to pass the hat or raise funds to cover this cost.

High Speed Internet

Carolyn Abbott and Ahmad Ghais provided reports from the meetings they have attended organized by Chaffee County Connect in an effort to bring high speed internet to the area. There currently is mapping of the areas to identify need and other information is being gathered to support the need. We may need to canvas our neighbors. A key issue is “the last mile” in that we do not have connections to fiberoptic cables or other satellite or towers to connect us. Ahmad explained some options, cost and the desire for competition.

There is currently legislation pending, Senate Bill 12-129 CONCERNING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN NONCOMPETITIVE RURAL AREAS. A motion was made by Kelly to have the FOTL send a letter to our state legislators supporting the bill. The motion was seconded by Bruce Hix and it passed. Bruce stressed the need for individuals to also send their support. We will provide the information to contact the legislators and on the bill to allow any members interested to express their individual support.

Twin Lakes Signs

Brad Palmer is working on the Mount Elbert sign, no final word on when it will be up. Susie Kester has researched sign companies and costs. Following discussion, it was moved by Bruce that we work with Sunshine Signs out of Buena Vista, the motion was seconded by Tom Smallwood and it passed. Sunshine will work on a design, costs and ultimately with Road and Bridge and CDOT to install. It will likely cost around \$500 per sign. We will need to raise money for this. Marylee Hix, Cornelia Patti and Susie will work on design ideas with Sunshine.

Misc.

Consider the benefits of joining the Chamber of Commerce for \$125 per year, it would assist in broadcasting events, links to our website, etc. Keep this on the radar for consideration.

Needs for FOTL

Money—Ric reported that we have \$661 in the bank.

Fire wood—we are running low

Susie moved we adjourn and it was unanimously seconded and approved.