

FRIENDS OF TWIN LAKES  
JUNE 30, 2012 MEETING

Board of Directors present: John Kester, President; Ric Altman, Treasurer/Vice President; Kelly Sweeney, Secretary; and Ahmad Ghais, At-Large.

**Minutes:** The meeting minutes from the May meeting were discussed and a motion to approve them as amended was made by George Brinkworth and seconded by Wes Duran. The minutes were approved as amended and can be viewed on our website at <http://www.friendsoftwinlakes.com/meetings/>.

**Election to fill vacancy:** Due to the resignation of Larry Marcum, an election was held to fill his term on the board. Two candidates were nominated, Liz Doherty (motion by John and seconded by Wes) and Joan Weber (motion by Susie Kester and seconded by Diane Slifka), however Liz withdrew. Kelly moved the nominations close and Wes seconded. Joan was elected unanimously. (POSTSCRIPT—since Joan is filling Larry’s vacancy, her position will only run through May of 2013 per our by-laws to finish the term not completed by him.)

**Amendment of the by-laws:** As posted on the agenda and our website prior to the meeting, the Board of Directors requested an amendment to the by-laws to allow the board to conduct board meeting by electronic means. Wes provided information from a number of local boards where this is being done as a reality of doing business and is handled effectively. Kelly moved for approval of the amendment and George seconded. The amendment makes the following change to the by-laws:

J. Annual and Regular Meeting of Directors. An annual meeting of the Directors shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of members within ten (10) days of Memorial Day. At such meeting, the Board of Directors shall elect new Officers and transact other business as necessary. The Board of Directors will hold regular meetings at least nine other times each calendar year ~~at such place and time~~ as may be designated by the Board of Directors. All meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to the public. During any meeting, the Board of Directors may choose to enter “executive session,” at which time only the members of the Board of Directors and any invited guests will be allowed in the session. If available, Board members may participate by electronic means ~~telephone conference or similar communications equipment by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time~~. Such participation shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.

**Satellite Broadband Vendor:** Rodney Mirabal of DSI which supports the ViaSat system offered through Wildblue made a presentation about their “Exede” service. He addressed local concerns regarding service. There were both very positive and some negative experiences shared by members in attendance. One clear tip in trying to get the service is to use a Buena Vista zip code, otherwise it will appear that service is not available here-but it is. Rodney passed around a sheet to contact any interested parties in the service. He intends to attend a future meeting to confirm whether some of the concerns raised were appropriately addressed.

Due to the importance of reliable and fast broadband service, the Friends of Twin Lakes will allow vendors to explain their services to the group, but our organization does not endorse any particular service.

**Special Meeting with Lake County Commissioners:** The Lake County Commissioners have agreed to come to Twin Lakes on Monday, July 23, 2012, for a special meeting at 1:00 p.m. The group in attendance welcomed the opportunity to have such a meeting and to thank the Commissioners for their generous support toward the construction of a sign welcoming people to the Village of Twin Lakes. John solicited agenda ideas:

Item 1: Twin Lakes business has suffered due to the Inn’s closure as there has been no place for regular dining that has resulted in job loss and a loss of repeat visitors at local bed and breakfasts because there is no regular sit down dining available. This impacts food, lodging and service tax revenues for the county.

Our community is excited about the opportunity of the Inn reopening and we have several issues that need attention and direction for the successful reopening of this business and hopefully the ability to attract other businesses. We believe the Commissioners should recognize the economic contributions of our area as we shop and do business in Leadville, but would need and should be allowed our own viable businesses in southern Lake County with local jobs.

- What can the Commissioners do to create a checklist with clear discernible steps required and necessary to obtain licenses and approvals, outlining which office or department does what and needs what?
- What can the Commissioners do to streamline communications and eliminate undue delay and redundancy between what different departments are requiring? There appears to be a lack of cohesiveness it reflects poorly on Lake County and creates undue delay and expense. For example, just for a local food cart, it took a number of different trips, forms, documents between the health department and county—almost seeming as if one was not aware of what the other was requiring.
- What steps are being taken to confirm that the building department is making sure that buildings are safe and habitable, but are not creating undue and unnecessary requirements? It is a two edged sword to challenge the department, so greater Commissioner oversight may assist all of Lake County in not scaring off businesses.
- How can locals express support to the Commissioners for things like a liquor license for the Inn?

Item 2: We need an update on the fire protection plans and efforts to improve response times. This item had momentum and seems to have slipped to less than a slow simmer. What can FOTL do to assist this moving forward?

Item 3: The Forest Service does not have resources to maintain the Historic Park. Locals attend to the visitor center, but to refurbish it as an attraction to visitors we need assistance, roofs are collapsing, etc. Is there anything the Commissioners can do to help or suggest to help us work with the Forest Service to preserve and maintain this important part of our county's history?

**Historic District:** Jon Morrissey, John, Steve, Johnny Canoe and Susan Frensky (sp) went on a tour of the Twin Lakes Historic District. The Forest Service's budget is down significantly with additional 10% cuts per year for the next three years. Long and short, we will need to obtain grants, etc. to improve the area.

Susan suggested talking to Gary Higgins a retired historic district refurbishing expert for guidance on working with the state historical society. His number is 539-1826.

Steve will work with the historic committee to try to come up with a written plan with specifics on how and what the FOTL should do to preserve the park, including cost estimates in terms of time, money, duration and feasibility.

**Volunteers:** John solicited volunteers for 7/14/12 at the Red Rooster Visitor's center and for the Pro Cycling Tour 8/22 and 8/23.

**Sign:** The Board of Commissioners has committed \$400 toward the cause, we are also offering bumper stickers for donation contributions. Karen Batista offered that the sign could be placed on her property.

**County Emergency Communications:** Data base update by Chad Malear seems to be lagging. There are updated maps and equipment in vehicles. George provided updated Pan Ark maps to the Assessor, Sheriff, Building Department and Fire Department.

**Useful Tip:** Comfort Gas said if there is a fire evacuation, turn off the knob on your propane tanks before leaving.

**Treasurer's Report:** We have \$2900 in the bank. An additional \$1000 was contributed for Historic District Preservation by the Ride the Rockies group. Thanks John for getting those funds!  
All are encouraged to pay your dues promptly!