

FRIENDS OF TWIN LAKES
MEMBERSHIP MEETING FEBRUARY 8, 2014, HELD AT THE TWIN LAKES INN

Board members in attendance: President John Kester, Secretary Kelly Sweeney, At Large Members, Ahmad Ghais and Joan Weber. There were twenty-three total attendees (4 by phone).

Welcome: Matt Roberts welcomed us to the Inn and informed us that the Inn will close for reorganization from March 1 through April. They will be open for special events, such as hosting our meetings and already have a writers' conference scheduled on March 15th. The Inn graciously supplied coffee and pastries for the delight of all!

Administrative matters: Through the confluence of weather, family needs/travel, holidays, needing a meeting location, etc., we fell off track on our meetings as required by the Bylaws. Kelly moved that the members approve that no meeting was held in November and that our meeting in February be treated as our constructive January meeting. Wes Duran seconded the motion and it passed.

Kelly moved that the minutes from the October meeting be approved. Ahmad seconded the motion and it passed.

John reported for Treasurer Anita Mason that we paid our liability insurance for the year of \$630. This insurance is necessary to proceed with the History Colorado grant and if we are to get the School House lease.

Meeting topics:

Lake County Comprehensive Plan: The plan is focused on providing long-range guidance for land use, economic development and infrastructure planning. An initial meeting held in Leadville (Leadville is getting its own comprehensive plan in addition to Lake County), unfortunately, through a lapse in communications, we did not get the word out. Only John Kester and Bruce Hix attended. We will make sure that information is circulated for the next meeting which may be in Twin Lakes according to communications that Kelly had with Gabe Preston at RPI Consulting. Members indicated agreement that it would be better for southern Lake County participation earlier in the process rather than waiting for the summer residents to return. It may be possible that surveys will be mailed to land owners which could be a useful way to obtain feedback for this plan. Gabe Preston may contact some residents in advance of the next meeting.

Southern Lake County Fire Station: Commissioner and southern Lake County resident Bruce Hix provided information about the stages of this process. He also acknowledged the tremendous contributions of Judy Leaming in the grant writing as well as the assistance of John and Anita. Step one was the success at obtaining a DOLA grant to obtain a design for an initial stations that will be used to store equipment presently stored in Leadville at \$1600 per month. The grant will fund \$32,000 for the design. Proposals submitted in response for the request ranged from \$48,000 to \$187,000. Assuming this funding gap can be addressed with the qualified applicant, a second grant application will be sought to fund the building of the station (prices per square foot vary from \$160-200. That application is due at the start of April. The station itself is envisioned to be built initially to house the equipment and then eventually built out to have living quarters (1 career person and 2 volunteers) and meeting/training quarters (Bruce estimates it will cost \$800,000 per year to maintain a manned facility there). A rhetorical question was raised about what are we getting for our taxes and it was asked why isn't this self-funded within the county. We have received more reports of difficulties with fire insurance in our area, cancellations with reinstatements at much higher rates, etc., so the ongoing efforts and commitment to making this fair and equal fire protection a reality for southern Lake County is greatly appreciated!

School House Lease: We recognize that the Superintendent had her hands full with construction and dealing with issues with the schools, so it may be late spring before we can get her focus on the lease they proposed to FOTL and the portions we need revised to protect FOTL. There are a number of provisions that we believe expose FOTL to liability it cannot afford, for example, real property taxes, ADA compliance and issues related to attorneys' fees.

Broadband: Carolyn Abbott asked that we please fill out the broadband survey the link for which will be emailed out to you today (it was) as the responses are **due on Monday**. Please forward it to at least one other person. It is a resurvey for getting interest from broadband suppliers to respond to a request for proposals to provide high speed internet at a reasonable price. A similar effort to get affordable quality broadband was done in Chaffee County with great results.

Brochure and Tourism Board:

Paula Ghais has completed a draft for a brochure that could be placed in local businesses about FOTL with a membership application form. It was passed around and we will look at final edits before printing. Thanks, Paula for your efforts!

Tourism Board should have representation from Twin Lake businesses and we need to get a meaningful link to a Twin Lakes website so that web searchers are not just directed to "Visit Leadville." Susie Kester said that she and Carl Bryan have offered to cover meetings. It would be great to get someone on the board (letters of interest are due on Tuesday). The next meeting is Tuesday at the County Courthouse commissioners' room at 1:00 PM. Susie reported that there is a new site for Twin Lakes found at visittwinlakes.com. Please visit the site often to help it move up on the search list.

Twin Lakes Historic District: We are moving forward on the assessment grant and should have everything in place so that the contractors doing the assessment work on the Clarion Hotel can "break ground" on their work following the thaw. Joan reported that we need volunteers for the Red Rooster Visitor Center. They can be creative in how shifts are done, once a week, twice a month, ½ of a 6 hour shift, etc. When people stop at the Visitor Center, they often will go visit other businesses, when the center is closed, they drive on by. Clean up will be planned for April or May and work will start on refurbishing the new exhibits!

Curling: John Kester raised the possibility of a demonstration here and seeing about interest in a team. Apparently Carl has experience and possibly could lead us.

Ghosts of the West: John has explored the possibility of showing this privately produced 1 hour documentary at the Mining Museum. Vince Mathews at the museum is interested, but we are not sure if it could be done with a profit due to the requirement to split the take and ensure we don't have a loss. Kelly misstated on what the cost options were, so here they are:

1) A flat one-time public screening license of \$800; 2) A flat rate one-time discounted public screening license of \$650 accompanying the purchase of DVDs for resale at the event or in the museum shop, or as thank you's to VIP donors/sponsors. Totals for this option begin at \$1175 and include 35 DVDs (a mixture of pre-signed and unsigned). DVDs can be purchased in various quantities with steadily decreasing prices per unit; or 3) A 50/50 box-office split.

Miscellaneous

Ides of March writers' workshop at the Inn includes dinner and lunch on the 14th/15th of March.

What about floating docks on Twin Lakes for overnight? Meghan Mulholland (Forest Service) will look into it.

NEXT MEETING MARCH 8 AT 10:00 AT THE INN