

Friends of Twin Lakes
Meeting with Mary Moore, Leadville District Forest Ranger
March 29, 2017 (10 am)
D-R-A-F-T

FoTL participants: Kelly Sweeney, Joan Weber, Judy Leaming (board members), John Kester, Kurt and Colleen Schweigert

Ranger Moore (MM) opened by introducing herself. She's originally from Virginia, worked 16 years as a hydrologist for the Forest Service in California, including Rim fire recovery. She moved to Leadville in early November to accept this job.

Kelly and John provided an introduction to Friends of Twin Lakes (FoTL). A discussion of FoTL issues followed.

- Clarion Hotel protection FoTL needs clarification/permission from the Forest Service (FS) concerning what can be done to prevent further deterioration. MM gave her authorization to tarp the roof on the back of the building and to temporarily tack it to the structure.
- Clarion Hotel as an interpretive center FoTL would like to know how we make this a priority for the FS.
 - MM said that Amanda Sanchez will create a management site plan assessment for the Clarion and Interlaken. MM said there should be an update on the Clarion site plan this summer. Kurt offered to help with site plans.
 - MM also said that Colorado Mountain College (CMC) may be helpful with assessing site characteristics. (Amanda's work).
- FoTL meetings MM was invited to FoTL's annual meeting on May 27th. She is welcome to participate in the historic park cleanup on May 13th where Michelle Mueggler is currently the FS oversight person for the day and Steve Sunday will bring the tools, etc., the day before.
- Historic Assessment of the Clarion Hotel The Historic Assessment began May 21, 2014, and was submitted to History Colorado (HC) in August of 2014. HC approval of the assessment was received March 2015. FoTL needs FS approval and a timeline so that the approved papers can be used in fundraising for Clarion projects.
- National Registry renomination We're awaiting an okay from the FS archaeologist on the portions of the registry done on the FS side of the highway (the Historic District involves both sides of the highway with private property on the other side). MM will contact Amanda to get a time frame for when the FS will address the FS site forms done by Kurt and reconcile the site form numbering or provide additional information to Kurt so he can do any updates on those site forms for FS property.

- Kurt reiterated his offer from last fall to assist in oversight or help if they get an archeological field school or students working in the Historic District or its dump sites.
- Cost-Share Agreement MM: needs from FoTL "bin" list of activities/priorities with cost estimates (e.g., sanding the floor in the Visitor Center).
- Beaver ponds Beaver have been creating swamp/bog that's encroaching on the barn now and will eventually reach the parking lot/picnic tables and possibly the highway. MM will find out from Nick the plan of attack. One consideration is a relief pipe on the ponds to divert water.
- Bandit trail in front of Mt. Bump trail entrance down to LakeMM: trail may get on the 2017 FS list.
- Granite Tower FoTL urged FS to move the Granite Tower up to early in FY 2017 (from 2018) for security and safety issues. MM: working on that. Also, working on a tower on Independence Pass.
- Antiquities permit Kurt told MM that he needs an antiquities permit (FS designation) to continue work benefitting FS (costs \$250). (Paperwork waiving the fee did not get processed, but Kelly provided an email after the meeting showing that it had been agreed to by the FS.)
- Eureka Mine Located at the base of Independence Pass (Lackawanna turn), the FS was involved in permitting this mine. Difficulties with funding have stopped the project, at least for now. MM: provided a post meeting update that the project is still on hold.
- Visitor Center Michelle Mueggler has been FS contact since Jim Fiorelli is on assignment with help from Rebekka Gardner. MM will make sure FoTL is informed when Jim's temporary replacement is assigned.
 - Donations are used to pay for copies of materials distributed to visitors. They also use them for maintenance on building—Jim may have 2016 funds turned over in 2017 set aside for Visitor Center projects.
 - FS emergency info can be given to Colleen for FoTL volunteers. Cat suggested outside displays as part of an interpretive center.
 - Second floor window display was authorized by Cat last fall and MM has no objection.
 - Regarding the FS volunteer coordinator position, Kelly said she especially appreciated the work Allison Stewart did coordinating volunteer projects and at the projects, mentoring, teaching, building relationships, responding to concerns/questions.

- Interlaken trail FoTL refers a lot of visitors to this trail because it's an easy hike with beautiful views. Road to trailhead needs to be smoothed out. MM: coordinating with county.
- Emergency medical services FoTL could use a letter of support from MM with our funding application for two AEDs to be located at the Visitor Center and at another location.
- Better fire protection This is another priority for FoTL and southern Lake County. Insurance issues for home owners + fire station issues. Defensible space funding -- Caroline Shaeffer (funded by Colorado) was discussed. MM: FS coordinating with Colorado State Forestry Department.