

FRIENDS OF TWIN LAKES
July 23, 2016--MEMBER MEETING

Board of directors in attendance: President Kelly Sweeney, Vice-President Anita Mason, Secretary Judy Leaming and at large representatives, Joan Weber and John King.

Minutes: Kelly moved that the minutes be approved; John Kester seconded the motion and they were approved.

Caroline Schaffer: follow-up on wildfire mitigation. Caroline has been doing risk assessments in Pan Ark, Gordon Acres, Sylvan Lakes and Beaver Lakes. 50-50 cost sharing is available from Colorado Water Conservation Board. Owners' contributions can be a soft match with labor valued at \$25/hour. A sign-up sheet was distributed for a walk-through of property. John Kester said that Caroline and her associate came to their house and did a risk assessment. He said very few trees need to be removed. Caroline said they're not trying to "moonscape" properties. It doesn't have to be that big of an issue; it can be little things. Caroline followed up with several people in Pan Ark who signed up, but haven't been contacted yet. View Caroline's May presentation on fire mitigation at <http://www.friendsoftwinlakes.com/fire-protection/twin-lakes-presentationfireriskassessment/>

John Kester: update on Fire Planning Board. John has agreed to chair a FoTL fire advisory subcommittee. A sign-up sheet was circulated. There's a need for more people on the Fire Planning Board which currently is composed of 5 people from Leadville and Lake County. We need more people from southern Lake County on this board.

John described the issues concerning a fire station in southern Lake County. Two primary issues remain: (1) the number of people who are required at the station and (2) a place to put those people. The initial funding request to DOLA was not granted because the proposal was too large (\$2.3 million). The original proposal had too many people (10) in a 12,250 sq. ft. structure. The new design has half the bay equipment storage area, a smaller community room and increased space for fire fighters. It's 6,000 sq. ft. and would cost \$1.2 million.

Steve Rogers got input from the Chaffee County fire department; he prepared a map which shows how many volunteers are needed. Steve Boyle and Dan Dailey believe that there must be a combination of reservists/volunteers and professional fire fighters. It takes six months of training to qualify as a Firefighter 1; reservists/volunteers must go through 240 hours of training and physical tests.

The Twin Lakes community thinks differently about volunteers. We remember when there was a volunteer fire department in Twin Lakes which improved the initial response time and alleviated concerns about insurance, plus related costs. Lake County Commissioners shut down the Twin Lakes volunteer fire department a number of years ago. Now there's a fire fighters union with stringent requirements (and longer response times).

Discussion was held about the value of having volunteers/fire fighters. Additional benefits recognized were having volunteers respond to incidents on Independence Pass and engage in fire mitigation measures since only one percent of calls are from southern Lake County (call numbers have been used as a justification for no separate fire district).

Matt Hakala: yoga information. Matt introduced himself as one of the yoga teachers offering classes in the Twin Lakes schoolhouse this summer. His classes begin Saturday, August 13th (10:30 a.m.). His good friend, Claudia Juhrs, will teach classes at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, beginning August 16th. They are suggesting a donation of \$8-10 per class or bring food as an in-kind contribution. Wear flexible clothing, bring mats or blankets, water and an open mind. Chairs can also be used. Classes will last one hour. Matt described his sessions as gentle, simple and accessible. Yoga helps build strength, stamina and flexibility. It also helps with energy levels. If interested, just show up. No need for advance registration.

Kelly Sweeney: additional volunteers needed at the Red Rooster. Sign-up sheet circulated (remaining open dates following sign up: 8/15, 8/23 and 8/30).

Kelly Sweeney: FoTL picnic/potluck . Date selected: Sunday, September 11. FoTL will provide the meat. Everybody else will bring side dishes.

Ahmad Ghais: Twin Lakes schoolhouse work to be completed. Progress has been made by the schoolhouse workgroup. Items remaining include (1) remove construction debris, (2) finish painting inside and out (rear deck), (3) plan and implement Interpretive Center, (4) refinish chairs and desks, (5) move backfill and gravel to side path and (6) install shutters. John Kester brought a shutter he constructed for the schoolhouse and requested feedback.

Sharon Brenner: Planning Commission meeting on Monday, July 25th, at 4 pm in the Leadville Courthouse to discuss enforcing camping restrictions.

Marji Nash: vacation home rental needed (May-October 2017).

Kelly Sweeney: volunteers needed to assist the Forest Service with Willis Gulch Trailhead improvements. Sign-up sheet was circulated.

Anita Mason: fire dangers related to marijuana grow operations + updates on EMS services + prevention efforts needed. It's not growing or smoking marijuana that causes fire danger, it's the process of extracting oil (with butane) from the marijuana bud. The biggest danger is explosions. There have been three in Lake County. Grow operations have ceased in Gordon Acres. They continue in Twin Lakes even though the property is likely uninhabitable.

Anita asked the community to help educate people they know who are going camping. Ask if they have a map + compass + whistle + water. If not, encourage them to wait until they're prepared (and live another day). Colleen asked about a handout for the Visitor Center. Margie offered to add another page with this information to the books in each room (Twin Lakes Inn).

The numbers are way up this year for hikers/campers throughout the county and the state. There have been lots of lost people, including experienced hikers. Flight for Life has been called six times during the last month. Search and Rescue is an awesome all-volunteer organization with four EMTs and two others. A call to 911 will be transferred to Search and Rescue (Anita, Mike or Chris) to determine where the lost people are located. We are encouraging the Forest Service to be more proactive in 2017 planning for restroom pumping to deal with influx.

Bob Mathes advised that the Red Rooster is a training center for Pokemon Go.

Clarion: Trees around the Clarion look so much healthier after the Forest Service work on wind sail trimming. We appreciate John King's work on this project.

Dates of upcoming events in the schoolhouse:

- Tuesday, August 2nd (7 pm): "Islamist Extremism" by Dr. Ahmad Ghais.
- Saturday, August 13th (9 am): Native Nations by Judy Leaming
- Saturday, August 13th (10:30 am): yoga class by Matt Hakala (continuing every Saturday at this time into October)
- Tuesday, August 16th (10:30 am): yoga class by Claudia Juhrs (continuing every Tuesday at this time into October)
- Thursday, August 25th (6:30 pm): Healing Touch Therapy by Cornelia Patti
- Tuesday, August 30th (6:30 pm): Neuro Kinetic Techniques- Joint Work Seminar by Bob Gaas

Next FoTL meeting: Saturday, August 27th (9 am).

Meeting adjourned (10:15 am).