

FRIENDS OF TWIN LAKES  
March 26, 2016--MEMBER MEETING

Board of directors in attendance: President John Kester, Secretary Kelly Sweeney and at Large Representatives: Ahmad Ghais and Joan Weber.

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

**Miscellaneous information from John:**

- **Annual meeting is on June 4, 2016.** There will be three Board positions will be up for election at the meeting. Of the three current Board member terms coming to an end: John will not stand for reelection, Kelly will stand and Ahmad has not decided.
- **May 21, 2016 is our Heritage Park cleanup day.** Allison Stewart who coordinates volunteers with the Forest Service will make sure there is a Forest Service vehicle and presence at the event. She will also meet Kelly on either the 5<sup>th</sup> or the 9<sup>th</sup> at the Red Rooster for a site visit.

**Lake County Best Volunteer and South Central Region All-Hazards Volunteer of the Year Award:** Anita Mason was recognized for her tremendous volunteer spirit and commitment to Lake County Search and Rescue and also on other volunteer projects (including our own Schoolhouse rehabilitation). We acknowledged her tireless efforts and dedication to training, exercises and actual mission activities in the county.

**Twin Lakes Traveler:** Jim McMillen asked that articles and advertisements be submitted by mid-April. Please contact Jim or Lexie Palmore McMillen with questions, ideas or submissions at [artboat@wildblue.net](mailto:artboat@wildblue.net) or by telephone 903.930.1568.

**Native Nations Seminars by Judy Leaming:** Judy presented an overview of the free seminars that she will present at the Schoolhouse on the second Saturday of each month from June to October (6/11, 7/9, 8/13, 9/10 and 10/8) from 9 to 10 AM. Judy is an attorney and educator who has worked with Indian Tribes for 30 years. She will give the historical/cultural presentations from the tribal perspective starting with pre-contact to contemporary issues. Please see the link on the FOTL Meetings and Announcements page for more details: <http://www.friendsoftwinlakes.com/meetings/>. (The Twin Lakes Traveler will have an article by Judy on how Mt. Elbert was named following disturbances/conflicts between the miners and the Ute Nation.)

**Boat Dock(s) Proposal:** Steve Rogers presented his proposal to have boat docks at the ramps at Dexter Point and Whitestar/Red Rooster along with a ramp at Interlaken. He anticipates that the cost would be \$1800 without labor or \$300 with it. He has done similar projects and would volunteer his labor for a 12x 8 dock to make greater safety in the launching or landing and ramping process. Steve wants the support of others who would benefit from the docks. Steve moved that FOTL support his application with the understanding that the project would be phased starting with Dexter. Bruce seconded the motion and it passed. Jim noted that they should try to contact Rocky Mountain Recreation as the Forest Service will likely require their involvement in the process.

**Dogs running at large and failure to clean up messes:** local village residents and Gordon Acres residents expressed concern over the number of dogs running at large without owners present or on a leash. Apparently, there has been a bit of dog mess left in unfenced yards not picked up by the owners. When faced with similar issues in Pan Ark, the Sheriff was contacted and fined the owners. We encourage people to talk to the dog owners and if there are subsequent issues to involve the Sheriff.

- Tangential issues were discussed about placing posts with "poop disposal bags" and signs about Lake County's leash law and reminders to clean up after your dogs. Someone could raise this in a more defined fashion at the annual meeting.

- On another tangential issue, we will also ask the General Store about selling the single yellow bags for garbage disposal that has a map to the disposal site to try and end the summer garbage issues in the Twin Lakes area. The Forest Service is not going to help with the garbage issue.

**New Red Rooster Volunteer Coordinator:** Kelly will take over the volunteer coordination from Joan. Joan and John will provide her back up. Anticipate being contacted by mid-May regarding help in the effort to keep our Visitor Center open! Susie Kester recommends that a flag be hung from in front of the Center as well as the back to indicate that it is open.

**Letter to Forest Service and Changes in Forest Service Ranger for Leadville:** 1) John sent a letter to the regional National Forest Supervisor, Erin Connolly in Salida as requested by the members at the last meeting to express our desire to work on projects with the Forest Service and frustration at what is viewed as push back or being dismissed. 2) John met the interim ranger for Leadville, Kelly Garcia, at an Emergency Services Council Meeting. John asked for a meeting with him and has not heard back.

**Colorado State Forest Fire Mitigation Project:** Damon Lange has a grant for a fire mitigation project that will be done on state land to the north and east of the Pan Ark subdivision. A similar project was done near Mt. Princeton hot springs evaluating properties to encourage fire mitigation.

**Fire Planning Board and Fire Protection Initiatives:** John attended a recent meeting and they need more members from southern Lake County. There are only 5 volunteers on a board that should have between 7 to 9 members. At the meeting they discussed the SAFR grant to get reservist training and also the need for another fire station in the county. John and Steve recommend revising the fire station plans so that the structure will be less costly and not store as much equipment. It is recommended that proposals for action be drafted outside of regular meetings and then presented in advance and discussed as appropriate at meetings.

**Pilot Use Project for Schoolhouse:** the Lake County School Board approved our pilot use project following the removal of excluding religious events during the pilot. Bruce moved that the revised project approved by the School Board be approved and Kelly seconded the motion which passed. Please see the Pilot Guidelines and Use agreement link on our website under projects at <http://www.friendsoftwinlakes.com/projects/school-house-pilot-use/>.

**Lake County Economic Development Plan:** Nicole Thompson the Executive Director of Lake County Economic Development and two contractors met with several business owners along highway 82 to get input on the plan for Lake County's economic development. You are encouraged to contact Nicole with your ideas and questions at [director@lakecountyedc.com](mailto:director@lakecountyedc.com).

**Bike and Build:** Ahmad will take over organizing volunteers for Bike and Build to coordinate food and showers for 7/8. Bike and Build is a nonprofit engaged in low income housing projects and tasks done by college age students across the US.

**Antique and Classic Car Show:** we will work with the Independence Pass Foundation to coordinate this show traveling from Aspen to Twin Lakes on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for details.

***Keep your eyes open for garage sales or other places to get some quality folding chairs for the Schoolhouse.***