

FRIENDS OF TWIN LAKES  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2012 MEETING

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

Acknowledgement of guests: Representative Millie Hamner, Lake County School Superintendent Wendy Wyman and former Lake County School Superintendent, Betty Kokenes.

**Minutes:** John Kester moved to approve the minutes and Susie Kester seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Currently, we have \$3575 in our bank account which includes the funds set aside for the Historic Park (\$1000 from Ride the Rockies and \$1,171.52 from the Twin Lakes Improvement Association). Folks are encouraged to pay your yearly dues!

**Clean Up Day in the Historic Park:** Monday, September 24, 2012, is Clean Up Day for the historic park in Twin lakes starting at 9:30. The Forest Service will also send some workers. Please bring pruning equipment to help cut back the willows. Please RSVP to Joan Brinkworth or John Kester because lunch will be provided.

**Guest Speaker:** Superintendent Wendy Wyman provided information on the upcoming school bond election. In addition to explaining the funding for the bond, 57% of which is paid for by the state, Superintendent Wyman emphasized the purpose of the bond, to provide a learning environment where our Lake County students are able to be career ready following an educational experience that allows them to engage in high level learning. Among other improvements, this requires refurbishing the Lake County High School built in the early 1960s school to be able to have up-to-date math and science labs, as well as an electrical system that will support current, as well as increased, computer training and usage demands. It also involves adding new rooms to address safety and health issues surrounding overcrowding.

Superintendent Wyman, along with former Superintendent Betty Kokenes, answered a lot of tough questions on funding for the estimated expenses to make the improvements. Ms. Wyman underscored that in the process of winning this highly competitive grant, the state recognized Lake County's schools have a very fragile and aging infrastructure. She also told about the fleeting nature of the funding that is being offered by the state because the grant money is coming from the interest on Land trust dollars that are not anticipated to be available for these grants in the future.

State Representative Millie Hamner, a former Summit County School Superintendent, who was also in attendance, gave the legislative perspective on Best Funding. The grant recognizes that the property assessment valuations in counties like Lake County put our county at a disadvantage; however, the intent of Best grant funding is to allow counties like us to use the grant funds to have the same quality of infrastructure and education as are offered in Summit and Eagle Counties. Representative Hamner confirmed that there is serious talk about not allocating the Land Trust interest funds like this in the future.

We greatly appreciated Safeway providing the coffee and donuts for the meeting.

**Opportunity to Help Local Business:** The Inn can use help scraping and painting shutters and in a few weeks washing inside wood, staining and verithaining (sic). They also would like to run the weed eater around the property one last time before the end of the fall.

**Fire Extinguisher for FOTL:** John found a 20 pound fire extinguisher for \$190 that works to 50 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit. Ric Altman moved that John be authorized to spend up to \$225 with tax to purchase a fire extinguisher, Joan seconded the motion and it passed. We will be able to use the extinguisher wherever our meetings are held.

**Fire Protection:** John said the planning board is working on the capital budget for the upcoming year and has not been focusing on the Fire District.

**Historic Committee Report:** John King and Joan provided reports for the committee. They are working on an agreement to manage the Historic Park for the Forest Service. It is anticipated that significant progress will be made in October when the Forest Service's "agreements" coordinator will work on it. The Forest Service has been told of our priorities, repair of the south side roof on the Clarion, other repairs the Clarion, chicken coop and Fine House. In addition, the interpretive signs need repair, as well as chip and seal of the parking lot.

We will need grants to accomplish the work needed as the Forest Service will only give us what they have already such as buckets and paint. Susie Kester heard back from Lifetime Fitness that they would be happy to contribute money if we provided them with a plan on how we intended to use the funds. John Kester met with History Colorado and found out that there are available grants, but additional contributions are usually required to get them (we need to be mindful that we may be able to give in-kind work contributions such as a partnering with CMC to refurbish). There are up to \$10 thousand grants for assessments of programs/needs.

The committee will bring any agreement back to FOTL to review and approve.

**Welcome Sign:** Based upon earlier authorizations to proceed with the wooden sign, a design was done, the cost of which would have been applied to the creation of the actual sign, however, we did not proceed with the sign. As such, we have a \$150 obligation. Kelly moved that we pay the obligation and Bruce seconded the motion. If we would use the services of the designer, he would still apply this toward the sign cost. The motion passed. (It was mentioned that the Lake County High School shop teacher 486 6970 might be another source for the creation of a sign.)

The meeting was adjourned.