

Friends of Twin Lakes Membership Meeting  
April 13, 2021

Meeting began at 6:00 p.m. Virtual meeting was conducted via Zoom. Audio of meeting is available at

Board of Directors: Present: Kelley Sweeney, President; Kurt Schweigert, VP/Treasurer; Beth Manning, Secretary; Larry Marcum, and Susie Ramsdell, at large directors.

1. Commissioner Kayla Marcella shared the following information:
  - a. COVID 19. The state is moving off dial metrics on Friday 4/16. Lake County is maintaining local control of dial metrics.
  - b. The County has fifteen available job openings.
  - c. Fire Station 2
    - i. The County will go with all electric utilities
    - ii. Construction beginning in May
    - iii. Recycling bins will remain, the Yellow Bag dumpster is operated by the Land Fill. Kelly said that FOTL will be purchasing yellow bags for the Visitor Center for others to purchase—price is now \$6/bag.
  - d. Reminded people to complete the wildfire survey. Due on April 15.
  - e. Working on child care plan to be implemented for the summer.
  - f. American Rescue Plan money allocations: County \$1,500,000 Leadville \$600,000. They are working on how it will be disbursed and allocated.
  
2. Director Paul Clarkson of Building and Land Use:
  - a. On short term rental registration, remind people to register their properties. Must be reregistered each calendar year.
    - i. There is a registry of rentals on the land use website.
    - ii. There is a vacancy in Building and Land Use.
    - iii. Colleen Schweigert added that the tax from short rentals was higher in 2020 than in previous years. Tourism board receives a 1.9% tax of rentals to promote tourism marketing.
    - iv. If you suspect there is an unregistered short term rental, you should report it to Paul Clarkson's office.
  - b. Building matters in Lake County and respond to questions.
    - i. Many applications are being filed for land use and building permits. Expecting a busy construction season. Some may not build because of high materials prices.
    - ii. Tax revenues are increasing, but expenses of government are also.
    - iii. Taco Bell coming across from Safeway.
    - iv. Emergency responder training facility to be constructed near the county gravel pit. Could become a regional training facility.
    - v. Gateway subdivision and PUD, plan approval has expired, but there is a new development team and they are discussing a new proposal. It would involve 200 acres and several hundred dwelling units.
    - vi. Did zoning enforcement in Pan Ark area that he feels was mostly successful. There were about 45 violations and about half were cleaned up.
    - vii. At the Railyard development he expects at least 40 additional dwelling units. Last year there were 70 building permits for homes.

3. Approval of the January minutes: <https://www.friendsoftwinlakes.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Friends-of-Twin-Lakes-Member-Meeting-January-2021.pdf>
  - a. **Susie Kester moved for approval of the minutes, seconded by Joan Weber. Motion was passed.**
4. Review of status of funds:
  - a. Operating Account 4/10/21 \$11,503.53 (\$2240.65 in contributions reserved for garbage service payments).
    - i. **REMINDER TO PAY YOUR DUES! We currently have 50 paid memberships for 2021. Pay online at: <https://www.friendsoftwinlakes.com/donate-now/> or mail your check to Friends of Twin Lakes, 231 Lang St., Twin Lakes, CO 81251. (Please and Thank you!)**
    - ii. FYI- we had 133 paid memberships in 2019 and only 95 paid memberships in 2020 which is understandable in the wonky world of Covid-19—however, that is a likely loss of \$760.
  - b. Designated Accounts 37,583.73:
    - i. Dexter Cabin: \$668.00
    - ii. Heritage Projects: \$7,757.17 (increase as a result of \$2500 transfer from operating account donation of \$600 from Wagner’s for Clarion roof and donations to date of \$2,498.87 to Heritage from Nick Gerich’s items less \$466.63 for plywood, roofing paper, screws, adhesive and spreader).
      1. **HUGE THANKS to Robert Krehbiel for his work to cover the Clarion lean to roof.**
      2. **HUGE THANKS to Carl and Cathy Wagner for paying for the materials not donated.**
      3. **HUGE THANKS for the generous contributions of materials, equipment and tools by Brad Dewitt, Greg Beilman, Kurt Schweigert, Nick Gerich’s estate items and Robert Krehbiel that made the job much easier and underbudget.**
    - iii. Fire Station 2 fixture finish funds: \$28,888.87 (we also have \$3000 in gift cards from Lowes and \$3500 that will be paid for some appliances from LT 100 Foundation AND we have **already contributed** \$52,000 to construction). Funds are important because we can leverage these funds with a USDA grant.
      1. 2019 we raised \$13,837 (not including the \$20,000 from Angelview promised in 2018 and paid in 2019); we also had 2 major fundraising events.
      2. 2020 we raised \$7644; we had no fundraising events.
5. BINGO MAY RETURN...
  - a. Subject to Lake County Public Health Orders and Guidelines we may start bingo sometime in May.
  - b. The Friends of Twin Lakes Board met and gave the matter great thought based upon the demographics of our membership/community and current available CDC/scientific considerations.
    - i. Most regular bingo participants are over 65, many are over 70.
    - ii. Most regular bingo participants have comorbidities or use oxygen for at least 8 hours per 24 hours.
    - iii. Most regular bingo participants have been or will be fully vaccinated by May.
    - iv. There are variants of Covid-19 that are more contagious and deadly than the original virus.
  - c. The Board recommends that there be two locations for bingo players and that any playing **only be allowed under current Public Health Orders/Guidelines and the following conditions:**

- i. Fully vaccinated individuals will be allowed to play inside the Schoolhouse, subject to number restrictions. Individuals are encouraged to bring their own food and beverages and to sit with groups that with whom they interact regularly.
  - ii. Partially or non-vaccinated individuals will be allowed to play bingo on tables spaced 6 feet apart outside of the Schoolhouse sitting with their cohort group and wearing masks is strongly recommended and if still mandated will be required when not eating food or drinking beverages that those individuals brought. There will be amplifiers to hear the game numbers thank to a donation by Susie Ramsdell's father's estate and a bingo aide will pick up winning bingo cards at the door to confirm numbers.
  - iii. **Joan Weber moved to adopt the above procedure on a trial basis, seconded by Susie Ramsdell. Motion passed.**
- 6. Save the dates and help select a date:
  - a. **May 15<sup>th</sup>** will be our scheduled cleanup day at the Heritage Park/Visitor Center. In the past we have had over 30 people. The work will be outside with just a few people inside the Visitor Center. Outdoor work will be socially distanced. If the weather is too inclement, we will move to May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - b. **May 22<sup>nd</sup>** will be our back up cleanup day if the weather did not allow work on the 15<sup>th</sup> or like our session in 2019, the snow did not allow us to finish all work. If we can work on the 15<sup>th</sup>, then the 22<sup>nd</sup> can be used to work on the Schoolhouse yard.
  - c. **We need a date for our annual member meeting.** The Board thinks weekday nights work better and we intend to continue with Zoom meetings for the time being.
    - i. What about June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6—day after Memorial Day? It was agreed by unanimous acclimation to have the meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup> by Zoom
    - ii. Consider if you would like to be on the FOTL board, we have 2 positions up for election, both Larry Marcum and Susie Ransdell are willing to stand for reelection, but we welcome other dues paying members to consider running, too. Reply to this email if interested to discuss responsibilities, etc.
  - d. We would like to have people clean up segments along Highway 82 again. This can be done at your own convenience or we could pick a day for a bunch of us to go out. CDOT will provide bags and take the garbage. It was highway cleaning that resulted in one of the more memorable observations on the predominate type of garbage found last summer: “it appears that drinking and driving are alive and “well” in Lake County.” CDOT gave us special bags, orange, that can be left by mile markers for pickup.
  - e. History Colorado Field School will take place in Twin Lakes for 2 weeks from **July 25 to August 8**--some students for 1 week and some for both weeks. We will be looking for host families or homes/businesses that would be willing to either lodge a student or two or allow a student to use their showers. FOTL will host at least one meet and greet potluck for the students.
- 7. Training opportunities, please let Kelly Sweeney know if you are interested in trail maintenance training on June 5<sup>th</sup> in Salida. Kelly will be driving down.
- 8. **Trail work opportunities** some can be groups going out with a trail leader, some can be 2-4 people working with Bob Mathes, who is a trail leader, when he is free.
  - i. Willis creek trail 1741a Willis Guclch to Interlaken.
  - ii. One project Brushing, water bar clearing, and channel clearing above and below crossings,
  - iii. One project: water bar construction,
  - iv. One project: short double log foot bridge crossing replacement, main ditch.
- b. Trail 1741:
  - i. One project brushing water bar clearing; Trail crew project, narrow cliff area and rock turnpike water crossing below bridge at top junction

- c. On Moache trail, there is another post to get in and two signs which can happen this month. There is a section to clear some rocks and grass clumps beyond bridge and once Jim Fiorelli of the Forest Service approves the site where the kiosk goes, there is a bit of brush clearing and hand digging. The plan is to let the trail get used except making sure it's clearly visible at junctions that may need some logs or rocks. We need to see how water drains and make improvements later or as needed if issues arise.
  - d. More signs have been put up and rocks put in place in the Twin Lakes dam area to control access. There is only one law enforcement officer for several counties. We need to notify Forest Service if we see overcrowding.
9. **Sangre de Cristo grant match.** Mark Graff, Twin Lakes Inn, suggested that we pursue a simple fundraising opportunity for each of you who have accounts with Sangre de Cristo to double your donations to Friends of Twin Lakes up to \$1,000 per year. We are researching this as their website has confusing information about when the donations were to have been made (2020 vs 2021)-- stay tuned or look into it yourself for your favorite local nonprofits. <https://www.myelectric.coop/community/matching-grant-program/>
10. Colleen Schweigert quick update on Visitor Center and volunteers. It will be open Friday before Memorial Day and every day until Labor Day, then weekends, from 9:30 to 4:30. The goal would be for someone to work only 4 hours every other week if we have enough volunteers. We will maintain a safe and socially distanced environment.
11. Housing Coalition request can be done individually or by Friends of Twin Lakes *upon motion and member approval*. Here is the request:
- k. My name is Brayhan Reveles, I am the Planning and Research Facilitator at Lake County Build a Generation and am providing additional support to Kristi and her Housing Coalition work. You are receiving this email due to your role in our community with Friends of Twin Lakes. As you may know, the Housing Coalition has been meeting since 2016 to work on policy interventions for local implementation to support the creation and preservation of Community Housing. You likely know the lack of housing options are threatening the character of our community. We are constantly losing neighbors, co-workers, and friends due to the inadequate state of housing in Lake County.
  - k. Starting in April, there will be multiple stakeholder presentations on policy interventions. We need your help to highlight the urgency of housing in our community. **If you are willing to express public support for any of the following policy interventions, please let me know and I can send you more information.**
    - xi. Policy recommendations on changes to building and land use code to support home building more cost-efficiently.
    - xi. Deed Restriction implementation to maintain the long-term affordability of housing units.
    - xi. Funding for Community Housing Initiatives.

The Housing Coalition and Build a Generation are looking for one of the following public support methods:

- Write a letter to the newspaper editor.
- Share a Social Media post.
- Make a Public Comment at elected official meetings.
- Email elected and appointed officials.

**Motion for Kelly to write a letter of support was made by Susie Kester and seconded by Larry Marcum. Motion passed.**

**12. Other Business: No other business.**

**13. Motion to adjourn.**

**Motion by Susie Kester and seconded by Susie Ramsdell. Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm**