

DRAFT-- Friends of Twin Lakes Member Meeting –DRAFT
February 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am as a hybrid meeting both in person at the schoolhouse and by zoom via Zoom.

Board of Directors Present: Kelly Sweeney, President; Beth Manning, Secretary; Susie Ramsdell, Colleen Schweigert on Zoom. There were 18 present in person and 8 Zoom sign ons many of which were 2 on one line.

The meeting began with a presentation by Adam Ducharme and Q&A on an Open Sky Initiative potentially located on Mount Bump. Adam is the Tourism Director for Visit Leadville/Twin Lakes <https://www.leadvilletwinlakes.com/>. He also provided information about the Scenic Byway.

Dark Skies

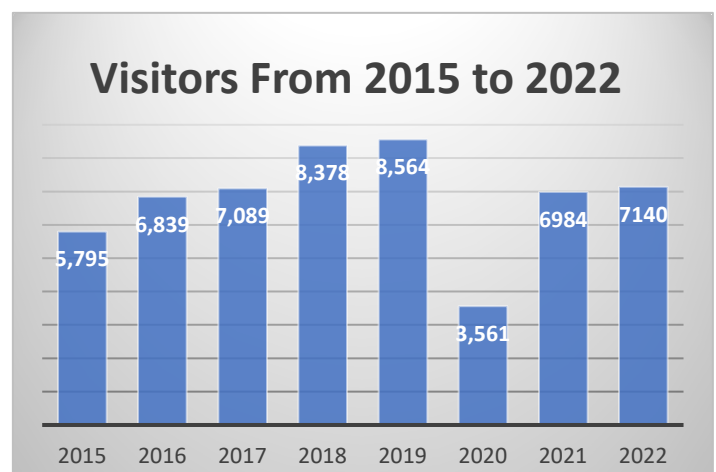
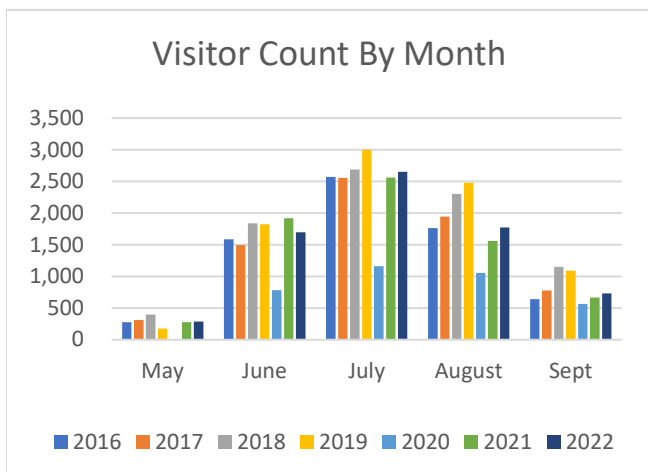
- 80% of Colorado residents have no access to dark skies.
- Twin Lakes is an excellent place for a dark sky initiative, particularly Mount Bump.
- Stargazing is an incredible experience, particularly in Colorado, and you can market tourism around it.
- The IDA (International Dark Sky Association) was started in 1988. The Colorado Tourism Office made this initiative a focus of theirs last year.
- The average timeline for designation as a dark sky site was about 12 years. Part of the reason for delays is that for example Lake County has had dark sky language in its building code for seven years, but the IDA updates their requirements every 6 months.
- We must work with the Twin Lakes residents, the Forest Service, and the County in order to get and IDSP.

Top of the Rockies Scenic ByWay

- Starts at Copper Mtn goes through Leadville, down to Granite, back through Twin Lakes to Aspen, back through Twin Lakes and Leadville and over to Red Cliff and Minturn
- The focus should be on the gateway cities.
- <https://www.codot.gov/travel/colorado-byways/south-central/top-rockies>

Visitor Center

- Total hours worked = 947.5 from 27 different volunteers (value of \$29,855.73).
- 7140 visitors served.



Member Business Meeting:

1. Approval of October 2022 Meeting minutes: <https://friendsoftwinlakes.com/meetings/friends-of-twin-lakes-member-meeting-october-15-2022/>
 - a. Motion by Susie Ramsdel to approve the minutes, seconded by Susie Kester. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Treasurer's report (and reminder to pay your dues \$20/natural person voting; \$10/person non-voting; mail checks to Friends of Twin Lakes, 231 Lang St., Twin Lakes, CO 81251 or use the bottom DONATE button on <https://friendsoftwinlakes.com/donate-now/> to pay online:
 - FYI- we had 133 paid memberships in 2022; current renewals 35 (30 voting and 5 non-voting).
 - General Fund \$17,437.25 (\$3210.35 is for garbage fund)
 - Designated accounts:
 - Heritage \$58,582.83
 - Fire Station \$76,587.17
 - Dexter House is \$412.91
3. Status of FS II fundraising and expenditures.

1) Quick update on where we are and

2) Entertain a motion for funds to also be used for capacity building equipment, etc. (this is consistent with what \$75,000 in recent large donors agreed for use).

- Motion by Darlene Bass, seconded by Anita Mason. Motion passed unanimously.

FOTL paid \$52,000 toward actual construction. The steel payment was made directly to the manufacturer, then we wrote 2 separate checks to the County to get us up to the \$52,000 total commitment and the \$50,000 grant from Climax obtained by FOTL. That is all we committed to construction and the remainder was to be fixture/finish/furniture. The reason we could not pay the county all at once was because we were waiting for a pledge from 2018 that was paid in 5/2019. Specifics on the \$52,000 and the Climax Grant to FOTL of \$50,000:

- FOTL paid the manufacturer directly on 10/2018 for steel on bays of \$39,848; Checks to the county were 12/2018 paid \$47,310 and 5/2019 paid \$14,842. Total: \$102,000--again \$50,000 of the \$102,000 was Climax grant funds.

Use of funds raised over \$52,000 and additional grants beyond Climax:

We received a grant from LT 100 to pay for some appliances in the amount of \$3499 that FOTL got for FS II

We received a grant from LCCF to pay for appliances in the amount of \$719 that FOTL got for FS II

We received \$3000 in gift cards to FOTL from Lowes (Chief Dailey swung this deal that went to FOTL) that was used toward appliances.

Reimbursements:

We reimbursed for the Gear Dryer \$3250 on 5/17/22

We reimbursed for the Tool Box on 8/24/22 \$478

We reimbursed for the Appliances on 12/7/21 \$4,136.79 (receipt is pasted below-gift cards were also used at purchase)

We paid iFurnish directly on 3/7/22 in 2 separate echecks totalling \$13,000.

We paid iFurnish balance directly in January of 2023 \$14,119.68

We paid LLCFR \$17,494.05 in January to cover a myriad of expenses.

We paid LLCFR \$9,818.20 in November of 2022 to cover a variety of expenses

Total as of 2/4/23 FOTL reimbursed (not including gift cards applied at purchase) \$62,296.72

As far as cash donations go, in addition to the \$52,000 construction funds given to the County/paying steel:

- FOTL raised **another \$135,898.12--that includes the LCCF and LT 100 grants**, but not the Lowe's gift card donations,
- As of 2/8/23, **the remainder of funds is \$73,601.40.**
- We hope that any funds not needed for fixture/furnish/finish will go toward capacity building expenses to make the fire fighters more effective through hoses, gear, water tank for side by side, useful things...

We have had significant in-kind work product donations: well drilling /casing by Golden Eagle Drilling (\$9,000), firewood provided by MK High Country Firewood (\$2000), Matrix Design Group engineering work (\$19,368.75++), and site plans, drawings, cost sheets, etc., used in grant applications and provided by Jeff Johnson, and Metal outdoor sign and interior Tree of Giving by Jessica Adams/Living Design Studios. Others have donated furniture, tile, cookware, etc.

Total cash raised by FOTL efforts without gift cards or in-kind is \$187,898.12. We provided a respectable showing of community support! Thanks to each of you who have given!

We greatly appreciate the huge financial support from Lake County, the City of Leadville and Leadville Lake County Fire & Rescue, DOLA's \$655,086 and Public Works' in-kind contributions of many hours of labor, machine use and meetings.

4. Report on submission of a mini-grant to DOLA by Lake County BOCC, Commissioner Fiedler lead.
 - a. FOTL agreed to provide \$1000 for match in the speed sign project. Lake County will provide the rest of the match.
 - b. DOLA would match ½ of the approximate \$8000 needed for a sign that also tracks data that CSP and Lake County Sheriff can use to maximize their efforts/time to stop speeders.
 - c. 86% increase in mid-week summer traffic from 2015 to 2022:
5. Report on upcoming meetings with Forest Service.
6. Other business (if items raised require a vote, they may be moved to the April 15th meeting).
 - Reminder for Everyone's a Sweetheart on February 14.
 - Yan reported that all the back mail is being delivered.
 - Start thinking about being on the board, please reach out to a current board member or reply to this email. There are 3 positions up for election, re-election.
 - Colleen Schweigert (her portion of the term shared with Jeannine Ravenscraft is over); Beth Manning whose term is ending is willing to run. Susie Ramsdell and Larry Marcum will not be running and will serve in other capacities on committees and/or as fully engaged members.
 - We need at least one more person willing to serve a 2 year term, unless you have 2 people willing to share a 2 year term.

7 Remember to view the Colorado Experience: Twin Lakes at
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhl_5dqm2f8

8. Motion to adjourn –Motion by Susie, seconded by Daryl Manning. Motion was unanimously approved.
Next Meeting 4/15 hybrid