



# FRIENDS OF PORTAGE LAKES STATE PARK

Summit County, Ohio

## **Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2009**

*Approved on December 17, 2009*

The November meeting of the Friends of Portage Lakes State Park was held at the park office.

The meeting was called to order by Larry Hunter at 7:05 PM.

Present were: Larry Hunter (President), Tom Fry (Vice President), Tom Burge (Treasurer), Michael Boyle (Secretary), Todd Metz, Paul Knoebel, Jim Frost, Margaret Frost, Lew Stamp, Lynn Stamp and Jerry Davis.

### **Reading of Minutes**

Michael Boyle shared the minutes from the October 15 meeting. Tom Fry made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Lew Stamp seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tom Burge reported that the Articles of Incorporation were approved on October 22 by the State of Ohio.

As discussed and agreed to, but not formally voted on at the previous meeting Tom submitted Form 1023 on November 5. This is the IRS Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The fee for this application was \$300 and it will increase on January 1 to \$400.

Lynn Stamp made a motion to formally approve the \$300 fee for the application. Margaret Frost seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

Our next step is to create and approve by-laws for the organization which is necessary to obtain tax-exempt status.

We received \$355.00 in income since the last meeting, of which \$280.00 was from the sale of 56 calendars, \$50.00 was a donor membership and \$25.00 was a family membership.

We had \$517.96 in expenses since the last meeting, of which \$92.96 was for the purchase of the 56 calendars that were sold, \$125.00 was the filing fee to the State of Ohio for our Articles of Incorporation and \$300.00 was to the IRS for the fee for form 1023.

The total balance in the checking account as of November 18 is \$565.04.

The Treasurer's report was filed for audit.

### **State Park Report**

Todd commented on how impressed he is with the group moving forward with the Articles of Incorporation, tax-exempt application and fundraising through calendar sales.

ODNR Director Sean Logan has named John Hunter, the assistant chief, to be the acting chief to replace Dan West who has retired.

Things are moving along quickly at Wingfoot Lake State Park with crews from all over the state assisting. There are tons and tons of leaves to dispose of.

Based on the assessment so far, the park office will be relocating to Wingfoot, however rangers and maintenance staff will still be based out of Portage Lakes and we can still use the building for our meetings. The mailbox where mail for the organization is received is located on Rt 93.

The move to Wingfoot can not happen until the number of work crews active at the park diminishes, so it will be sometime in the spring before the happens. Todd will set up a date for visiting the park via e-mail.

With Jefferson Lake closing their positions will be moved to Wingfoot and they may also be getting one employee currently assigned to the canals. They will also hire some part time NRS (Natural Resources Specialists) which will minimize the need to draw people from Portage Lakes.

### **Dog Park**

Cinda Klatil was not at the meeting to provide an update.

Larry received the key to the pipe safe from Rick Wilson.

We are unsure if the mutt mitts were to be donated have actually been received or just pledged. Larry will follow up with Cinda.

### **Chase Your Shadow Race**

Jerry Davis made various calls to race directors around the area. Summit Athletic Club is a big organization in the area, but they have a prediction run on the same day as our race.

Todd will work on contacting Second Sole as a potential sponsor.

There is a run for the homeless on Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 AM with about 2,000 runners and Jerry will attend to pass out flyers.

We discussed options for give-aways and the possibility of hats instead of t-shirts was raised given the time of year. Could limit shirts or designated give-away to only at set number of people who attend, e.g. the on to the first 200 people who register. This will push early registration.

The Kids Zone parking area will be opened and this should hold about 150 cars.

The date was finalized for Saturday, February 6 at 10:00 AM. It is a 5k Run / Walk with a \$20 entry fee and prizes will be awarded in various age groups.

The fact that the race will be on a closed course should be promoted as this is attractive to the runners.

Other ideas for fundraisers were briefly discussed including hosting a Disc Golf Tournament.

### **Butterfly Trail**

Larry shared a flyer he created for the butterfly trail. The cost will be \$10 for a 10 foot by 10 foot section of the trail. The trail will be approximately 3,000 feet long. The fee is an annual fee. Larry will take this flyer around to local greenhouses and other potential sponsors.

Those who sponsor a site are responsible for planting and maintaining it and they can put a sign stating who is doing the maintenance.

Todd and Larry need to do a site visit or mark it out on a map so Todd can submit the plan for approval due to the sensitivity near the dam.

Larry will include a Friends flyer and flyer for the butterfly trail in the next Purple Martin Association newsletter.

The timeline for the butterfly trail will be around April 15 to start seeds in the greenhouse, around May 1 begin digging with Boy Scouts and possibly some equipment from the park, and around May 15 to start planting.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the FoPLSP is scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion for adjournment was made by Tom Fry and seconded by Paul Knoebel. The vote passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Boyle, FoPLSP Secretary