

Friends of Portage Lakes State Park

PO Box 26463, Akron, Ohio 44319-6463

www.friendsofportagelakes.org

friends@friendsofportagelakes.org

330-731-1624



Minutes of the Meeting
Friends of Portage Lakes State Park Board
Thursday, April 14, 2011 (Approved by board, May 12, 2011)

The April meeting of the Board of Directors for the Friends of Portage Lakes State Park was held at Wendy's, 3193 Manchester Rd, Akron, OH 44319. A quorum was present.

Present: Larry Hunter, Tom Fry, Mark Snyder, and Lynn Stamp

Absent with notice: Tom Burge

Guest: Lew Stamp

Larry Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:25 PM.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

A motion was put forward by Mark Snyder and seconded by Lynn Stamp to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2011 and March 17, 2011 minutes as written. All were in favor, motion carried.

President's Report (Larry Hunter):

Deferred to Announcements and reports.

Vice President's Report (Tom Fry)

No Report

Treasurer's Report (Tom Burge)

No Report, pending the return on Tom Burge, Treasurer.

A motion was put forward by Tom Fry and seconded by Lynn Stamp to approve the reimbursement of Mark Snyder in the amount of \$74.28 for the purchase of ink cartridges, copies, and postage fees. Roll call: Hunter, Fry, and Stamp were in favor, Snyder abstain, motion carried.

Secretary's Report (Mark Snyder):

Snyder passed out a workable copy of the current business card for the group, subject to corrections; we currently have a limited supply until further discussion can occur.

Snyder reported on current membership level of 35 paid members this is an increase from last year.

Snyder reported on the current status of the 2010 Annual Report and asks for correction and additions, the report is also pending further information from Tom Burge.

Snyder also reported on a possible program of offering advertisements to the newsletter and the website as a possible source of income for the group.

Director's Report (Lynn Stamp):

Stamp reported that Jerry Davis has reported that he would like to have a technical shirt for next year and will begin working on possible sponsorships.

Stamp turn to her concerns over the nature of the Friends general membership meetings and that we need some direction at the meetings and need to provide some edifying programs a short discussion followed regarding the meeting structure. Snyder pointed out that programs should deal with nature and education. Hunter addressed his concerns on the subject discussion followed as to how to structure the future meetings one suggestion was to start with a speaker than move to a business meeting. Snyder pointed out that he would like to see a speaker by May's meeting. Discussion followed and tabled for further review.

Announcements and Reports

Portage Lakes Pirate Days:

Hunter reported on the current status of Pirate Days in the Portage Lakes and still wants the group to do an event, i.e. 5K Run. Hunter also passed out the current working model of one brochure for the event covering the Pirate Coins being sold by the Portage Lakes Kiwanis. Further discussion followed regarding the 5K Run and other events that were scheduled by various organizations.

Fry reported that he is still working on the Bike event but needs further guidance in the matter. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of having a sponsored event by a local bike shop.

Chase Your Shadow:

Snyder reported that the financials for the event have been completed and subject to audit by Tom Burge.

Stamp reported that Jerry Davis has confirmed with Terry Lewis the 2012 Chase Your Shadow Event and that Davis would like to have a sponsorship by August for a technical shirt for next year's event.

Bank of America Meeting:

Snyder reported that the meeting with Bank of America is forthcoming probably in May to discuss the funding request; Snyder will keep the board informed as the details become available.

New Business:

Advertisement Request, Portage Lakes Navigator

Stamp addressed the advertisement request of Friends member Kay Lukac in the upcoming publication, *Portage Lakes Navigator*. Discussion followed regarding the benefits of having an advertisement in the *Navigator*. **Mark Snyder made a motion to purchase a quarter page advertisements in the *Portage Lakes Navigator* for \$75.00. Motion was tabled.**

Discussion followed as to the cost of the ad, the “vision” that the group currently holds, and a need to further examine this area.

Bank of America Grant

Snyder reported that he will scan the existing grant documents to the board by the weekend and would like to request that they review the documents before the general membership meeting. Mark Krohn and Matthew Heinle will be providing the board with a legal review of the document before the general membership meeting in May.

2011 Grant and Corporate Fundraising Guide

Mark Snyder presented the board with information he received from attending the AFP meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 on the topic of “Board Onboard? Getting Your Board Fired Up About Fundraising.”

Snyder presented the board with a handout on the 2011 Grant Report.

Mark Snyder made a motion to create the Annual Fund of \$10,000.00 for 2011 and approve the Grant Report as submitted as a guide to the grants we are applying for. Motion seconded by Tom Fry. Roll call: Hunter, Fry, Snyder, and Stamp were in favor, motion carried.

Park and Trail Maintenance, New Portage Lakes State Park

It was brought to the attention of the board that work needs done on Rabbit Trail, which was an eagle scout project completed by Josh Ferry. Snyder and Stamp stated that they were going to walk the trail to get information as to the maintenance needed. Maybe it will be another project for the Boy Scouts. Further information will be provided at May’s board meeting.

A short discussion followed on the barn at the State Park. More information will be asked at our monthly meeting with the park leadership next week.

Old Business:

Naturalist Intern

Stamp reported that she developed a description of the Naturalist that the Friends are looking to hire for the summer. This is an area that we need as summer is almost here and Snyder and Stamp would like to have several “naturalist” sponsored events for the summer. Hunter pointed out that we are moving from an “intern” position to a naturalist, Snyder and Stamp felt that without a commitment from the park we need a naturalist over an intern as who would train the intern.

Mark Snyder made a motion to approve and advertise the naturalist position. Lynn Stamp seconded the motion pending the meeting with park officials on Tuesday. Roll call: Hunter, Fry, Snyder, and Stamp were in favor, motion carried.

Mark Snyder made a motion to restrict \$600.00 from the budget to pay for the naturalist position. Lynn Stamp seconded the motion. Roll call: Hunter, Fry, Snyder, and Stamp were in favor, motion carried.

Advocacy

Lynn Stamp provided information to the board that individual members may share information on pressing issues; however, the group as a whole cannot share a common belief.

Dog Park

Lynn Stamp reported that the bulletin board needs updated at the dog park.

Snyder reported that he is begun work on Bark in the Park for this year and will provide an update at the next board meeting.

Committee Formation:

A short discussion occurred regarding committee formation we are still looking for chairpersons for the following committee, Bird and Butterfly Trail, Dog Park, Membership, and Grant committees.

Larry Hunter adjourned the meeting at 9:32 PM.

The next meeting of the Friends of Portage Lakes State Park Board of Directors is scheduled for May 12, 2011 at 6 PM, location forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark A. Snyder, Secretary