

Minutes of Friends of Ferris Board Meeting
January 10, 2012 – 6:00 p.m.
Grindhouse Cafe

Present: Barb Hogan, Rose Odell, Al Graham, Carol Robertson, John Knox, Sandy Chapman, Mike Anderson, Tom Mates, Bob Hogan, Marlaine Bennett, Anne Kidd

Welcome & Call to Order by Barb Hogan.

Reviewed Agenda.

Reviewed & approved minutes of meeting on November 8, 2011.

Reports and New Business

Hasty Notes/Postcards/Bookmarks

- Mike has dropped off more postcards to The Chocolate Factory and Empire Cheese to replenish their stock.
- Mike gave John a cheque from the sales of postcards.
- Kerr's Books was contacted regarding them giving away bookmarks, from Friends of Ferris, with their book sales. They do not recommend this as they give away their own bookmarks plus they sell them. However, Mrs. Kerr agreed to a collaboration with FOF that would involve having the 2012 events at the park listed on the now blank back of the Kerr bookmarks. The cost to us would be \$20 plus tax for this information to be added to 1000 of the Kerr bookmarks. It was agreed that this is a wonderful idea and we will pay for this. Mrs. Kerr said they would be agreeable to doing this again with FOF unless they are approached by another group in the area.

Photos on Tour

- Mike reported that the cost to FOF for Lowndes Framing constructing barnboard frames with glass & matting, using wood donated by Gerhard, is \$23 apiece. It was agreed that we will sell the framed photos for \$50 each. A framed note will be included with the Photos on Tour with Al Graham's name & phone number for people wanting to purchase them. Carol offered to print up this note.
- Carol & Al said 6 new photos will be ready by March for 2012 Photos on Tour.
- Bennett's has agreed to display them in 2012.
- Tom will research the tax issue regarding the sale of the photos and will report back at the next meeting.

Trail Head Signs

- Two trail head signs were put up for the winter.
- The photo was sent to Sue Dickens at EMC.
- Tom said the signs that were damaged from the glue will be replaced at no charge. Tom will have the spelling of Ranney corrected to include the "e".
- One more sign frame will be erected in the spring (perhaps near the picnic shelter).

Trails

- Bob & Al have been very busy getting the ski trails ready for the season.
- Instead of spending \$200 on changing the green markers, new tape was purchased & used to cover the old markers at a cost of \$35. Good job!
- Nine signs have been installed to direct people to the suspension bridge, picnic shelter, chimney swift towers and parking lot.
- Two poles (with reflective marking tape) have been placed in between the stone wall and the fence and will hopefully deter snowmobilers.

TCT Flora and Fauna Signs

- Rose will continue to work on this and report back.

Boardwalk

- Tom reported that Sir Sanford Fleming College is interested in working on the boardwalk and will reply to Tom in 2012 regarding an autumn project.

Weekly Trail Walks

- Carol reported the walks stopped in mid-December and will resume in the spring 2012.
- Carol offered to submit an article and photo to the EMC newspaper to advise people of the start-up in the spring 2012.
- Notice of the walks will be included in the Trail brochures, at the next printing.

Tree Identification

- Phil Careless is away.
- Tom will email him regarding a date to meet with FOF about putting up more tree signs.

Website/Facebook

- Events have been posted.
- The weekly walks will be mentioned.
- Notice of the AGM, and Kevin Callan have been posted on the Ontario Parks Friends site.
- The website has been updated.
- Barb spoke to Kathy & we will be staying with the same host for 2012.

Photo Contest

- Only one individual, Raquel L. Arevalo, from Ajax, Ontario submitted photos.
- We voted on our favourite photo and the winning photo will be announced at the next meeting.
- The photo will be posted in the tabloid.
- Tom will write a letter of congratulations and pass it to Al (along with a free park pass for 1 year) who will give it to the winner. The park pass is worth \$170.
- We agreed to run the photo contest for one more year and see if the response improves.

Brochures/Pamphlets

- Anne suggested including a notice of the photo contest and the winner in the trail brochure.
- We'll put our events bookmarks in the brochures.

Cross-Country/Snowshoe Trails

- Al has done the ski/snowshoe pamphlets & they are available in the kiosks.

Membership

- John has updated the membership brochure (see enclosed).
- We'll add notice of the weekly walks to the brochures.

Mushroom Brochure

- The cost is 60 cents each for 100-150 full colour brochures, with a layout cost of \$25.
- Tom will get photos for the brochure and check copyright issues, etc.
- Carol got descriptions from Jan Thornhill of mushrooms found in the park and forwarded it to Tom who forwarded it to Lisa (NHE leader) for approval.

Spring Flower Brochure

- Carol will cost out the Trail Maps and Spring Flower brochures and report at the next meeting.
- The same number of brochures for each event was agreed upon.

Newsletter

- Barb is starting to work on it this month.
- Carol has submitted articles for Photos on Tour, Tree Identification, Walks in the Park and Dry Stone Wall reconstruction.

Tabloid Submission

- Submissions must be in by March 15, 2012.
- The winning photo from the Photo Contest will be included.

Flower Pots

- Barb is looking for plastic binnies that will fit into the wooden boxes.

Beer/Liquor Bottles

- Tom agreed to have signs made for the spring, informing park users that the proceeds from the left bottles will go to the Friends of Ferris for park events and improvements.

T-Shirts and Hats

- Barb will report once the new CD/report arrives from Joasia Pyrz (MNR) in March/12.

AGM

- To be held on Apr. 12/12.
- Barb reported that Kevin Callan, "The Happy Camper", is confirmed to speak at the AGM
- The Aron has been rented at a cost of \$100.
- Kevin will bring his own audio/video equipment & some free items to be given away.
- The election of the board will be held after his presentation.
- Carol will call members & advise them of the date & time of the AGM. Ok'd by board.

Spring Nature Walk (chaired by Rose)

- To be held on May 6/12.
- Barb offered to order 5 new signs from BMR to cover the road signs that currently say "Trillium Walk".
- Tom will supply a naturalist from Presqu'ile to lead the walk.
- Rose has prizes for the school children's art work.

Kite Day (chaired by Sandy)

- To be held on May 27/12.
- Fred advised Barb that all remaining supplies are in the shed or with Sandy.
- We need to check the existing supplies & get the necessary items (kite material, dowels, string, tape, connectors, tails, handles, scissors, coloured markers, etc). Carol will check into Tyvec sheets. Rose will email Pam Noran re sourcing out string & handles. Sandy will check computer sites.
- Carol, Barb, Marlaine & Anne volunteered their help.
- We have 2 tents (belonging to FOF and Barb & Bob).

50th Anniversary

- As 2012 is the 50th anniversary of Ferris Provincial Park it will be celebrated & promoted at all events throughout the year.
- Tom felt that a special celebration should be held on June 30/12 with cake, photo op, invite the Ferris family to be our guests.
- Barb received a letter from Mary Costello regarding _____

Dry Stone Wall (chaired by Carol)

- To be held on Sept. 1 & 2, 2012.
- Carol reported that she contacted John Shaw-Rimington asking who would be leading the event (him or Ethan?). Ethan did a very good job but we need to know who will be teaching the course before we advertise it. She awaits his reply.
- Carol will approach people who have stone walls on their property & drop off a brochure for the event on the chance that may be interested in coming to the course. She asks that we all advise her if we see any such walls on our travels. She said she'll only do this if the reception is positive.

Exploring the Night Skies (chaired by Barb)

- To be held Sept. 20/12 in Ferris Park, weather permitting.
- Terence Dickinson will be the speaker.
- Barb asked the Legion if we can use their facilities in case of inclement weather. We will offer \$50 donation as we did last year. We await their response.
- Barb also contacted the Peterborough Astronomy Club's new president to ask if they'd be interested in attending. We await their reply.

Fungi Walk (chaired by Barb)

- To be held Sept. 30/12.
- Jan Thornhill confirmed that she will be the speaker again.
- Barb will ask Jan to label the mushrooms that she displays.

Feb. 6/12 – Horticultural Society

- Carol will be the guest speaker.
- Anne offered to help with a power-point demo.
- Carol will make brochures, pamphlets, tabloids, etc. available to them.

2012 CSCF Grant

- Barb provided a sample of other recipients (see attached).
- She encouraged us all to consider this and we can discuss it further at the next meeting (Feb/12).

Cycling Plan for Trent Hills

- As per a recent newspaper article in The Independent.
- Tom advises we should investigate this further as to how we can be a part of this plan.

Damage in Park

- Some of the gates have been vandalized.
- The mail box was stolen.
- The new eavestrough drain pipes were damaged and Bob & Al removed them to the maintenance yard.
- Snow curb marker poles were stolen. Two were later found & placed behind the Pepsi machines.
- The plexiglass was stolen from the kiosk at the suspension bridge.
- Tom reported the incidents to the OPP and has requested surveillance cameras.

Financial Business

- See attached report.
- Reservation for the picnic shelter will be \$50.00 per day plus the cost of a parking pass.

Ontario Parks

- Received letter from Scott Elliott regarding initiatives for Friends groups. Tabled to next meeting.
- A radio tower is being put up by the MNR in the spring.

Date & Location of Next Meeting

- Thurs., Feb. 9/12 at 6:00 at the Grindhouse Cafe.
- Thurs., March 8/12 at 6:00 at the Grindhouse Cafe.

Motion to Adjourn