

FWCP Trustees Meeting Minutes March 21, 2018

Park District Headquarters

Present: D. Newlove, B. Hale, S. Nesper, C. Weis, R. Hammond, G. Dean, C. Bazely, R. McLaughlin.

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm.

Executive Committee Reports

The minutes were accepted (1st motion C. Bazely; 2nd R. Hammond) with the additional information: "The board members voted in the new trustees S. Frankforther, C. Bazely, and S. Nesper." It was noted that there is a typing error on the Trustee Phone and Address document. A correction was made on the email address for R. Hammond changing ".com" to ".net."

The 2018 Committees document was handed out for members to review.

The Levy update: Board members are encouraged to obtain names of individuals who are willing to place endorsements for the levy in the newspaper; to obtain names of individuals who are willing to place signs in their yards. Signs will be available midApril. Levy information should be added to our Friends Facebook page. Neil and Ranaye discussed how the Open Forums have been going. Board members were reminded that they should stress that this is a 10-year renewal and that there will be no increase in cost.

Finance Committee Reports

G. Box has agreed to take over the treasurer's position. S. Barry prepared this month's report and has offered to prepare the 2018 Budget for this year. She has graciously offered to help during the transition to our new treasurer. There was discussion on the pros and cons of hiring an outside CPA for financial audits, etc. The decision was made to wait on committing to this and the accompanying monthly cost to the organization. (1st motion D. Newlove; 2nd B. Hale)

The 2018 Budget should be complete for our next board meeting.

Membership Committee Reports

Numbers of incoming memberships have begun to slow down. Our membership number has remained fairly consistent, but we have more money coming in. Members are including additional donations along with their memberships. The newly designed Membership flyer was well received. Favorable comments were made about the use of the Photo Contest picture and also the inclusion of the list of Wood County Parks.

The FWCP Membership list has been prepared and will be included with the newsletter mailing in April.

Directors Reports

Neil Munger reported that signs for the levy will be available soon, but cannot be given out at the Park Headquarters. Arrangements are being made for these to be picked up at a different location. The big push now is for getting endorsements for the levy for the newspapers. There has been many positive, encouraging comments about the parks at the Open Forums. Interviews are being held for the next director for the Carter Farm. Displays are being designed for Sawyer. There will be installation of new bricks at W. W. Knight three times/year.

Jamie Sands mentioned the upcoming Plant Sale and suggested that this be added to the Friends Facebook and webpage. She mentioned the Open Forum on Saturday and asked for board member to attend if possible. Attendance has been light but well received. Favorable comments are being made about the videos that were developed on the WC Parks. The reframing and installation of the Friends WC Parks Photo Exhibition will be on March 28th. Any OCVN scholarship requests should be sent to Jim Witter.

Old Business

Friends WC Parks Photo Contest Reception will be Thursday, April 5, 5-7 at Four Corners in BG. We will need volunteers for greeting and refreshments at 4:30 on that day. Ranaye will purchase the refreshments. We will have information on the cost of any reprints that will be made from the photos taken this year. Proceeds from this sale will be used to support future exhibits. Levy information will also be on display. Ranaye will check the display board to make sure it is ready for the exhibition.

There has been no progress on the History of the WC Parks Video. We are waiting on the complications with the conflicting video formats to be worked out.

The Spring Plant Sale order form will be mailed out on Monday, April 2nd. We will need volunteers to help with the mailing.

New Business

The deadline for articles for the Spring Newsletter is Monday, March 19th. We will be adding information on the native plants that will be available. Volunteers will be needed for the mailing will Monday, April 9th. We will be including a brochure in this mailing that will list all of the current members of the Friends organization.

S. Nesper has agreed to work on the Friends web page. A training will be arranged for her to learn the current web coding information.

The Volunteer Recognition Dinner will be held on Thursday, April 12 at Otsego Park. Be sure to register if you are attending.

The General Membership meeting will be on Sunday, May 6 at WW Knight Preserve. The program will be "Plant It They Will Come." The topic will be butterfly gardening with Jan Dixon from Wild Ones and The Toledo Naturalist Association.

The meeting was adjourned (1st G. Dean; 2nd C. Weis).