

Friends of Ferris April meeting

April 20th, 2017 @ 1800hr
Capers Restaurant - Campbellford

Welcome and Call to Order

Present: Barb Hogan, John Knox, Anne McCarthy, Sandy Chapman, Theresa Miller, Donna Wilson, Kayla Vieth, Marcia Perryman, Rob Cunningham & Rachael Windsor (Ontario Parks)

Regrets: Carol Robertson.

Review and approval of March 8th, 2017 minutes. *deferred to next meeting*

Motion to approve by:

Seconded:

Regular Business

Membership

Lead: Barb

Barb reminds board members to complete their 2017 memberships.

Tuesday Walks

Lead: Carol (Barb in her absence)

Tuesday walks will resume May 2nd. Barb regrets that the new map mock up did not make it to the meeting, however she gave us a description and will email the pdf to everyone for final review.

Trail Maps

Lead: Barb

Barb will have 2500 new trail maps printed, with colour on one side. We decided not to print more this year because we still have 1860 remaining. Cost \$309 + tax. We would like to have the trails marked with their corresponding colours for next year and further updates will need to be completed.

Fungi Brochures

Lead: Barb

Barb has covered the old PO Box address on the miss print brochures. We have decided to leave the Legion information on the front in thanks for providing free meeting room all winter for our board meetings. Barb will send a letter advising the Legion.

Kite Day

Lead: Anne & Sandy

Anne canvassed members for volunteers for the event. We have requested 20 picnic tables and 3 garbage and 3 recycling bins for the event this year. The increase is because we have a group of 40 (approximately 15 families) from Toronto who are planning to come for lunch, fly kites and then go visit the suspension bridge. Barb will have all 3 big tents set up on the Saturday prior to the event to accommodate the extra guests.

We will discuss our plans for a 2018 Kite day event at the board meeting after the event. At that time we will review the inventory and financials etc. after which we can decide if we want to do a 2018 event and if so we can plan to purchase kites for that event this summer from Windrush.

Sharp's Grocery Tapes

Lead: Marcia

The Lachapelles are continuing to enjoy doing the tapes. Marcia checks in with them once a month for a progress update and to ask if they want to continue. We are very grateful for their help. We have received \$100 from Sharp's.

Playground Project (Grant Application)

Lead: Rachael & John

We have been advised that the Campbellford Seymour Community Foundation will be contributing \$4000 towards the project. The official announcement will come out on May 4th at the Aron at 4 pm. If anyone would like to join Barb to receive the grant please let her know so she can register our attendance. At 7:30 that night the Aron will be showing Fly Away Home.

Ontario Parks has tentative approval for their portion of the cost and are waiting for the final sign off for funding and the ecological assessment. They expect to have both of those finalized shortly as no barriers have been identified.

Online marketing Workshop

Lead: Carol (Barb in her absence)

Carol attended an online marketing workshop and provided the resources from that workshop to share with anyone who was interested. The date and time coincides with our next meeting.

13 ways to Kill Your Community

Lead: Carol (Barb in her absence)

Carol provided information about a seminar about seizing your goals and improving your life that will be held at the Aron this May for any who may be interested.

Website/Facebook

Lead: Barb

Narcity.com regarding planning a roadtrip to the most beautiful Provincial parks in Southeastern Ontario. Ferris made the list! The article had 3961 views.

Barb followed the narcity article with a video talking about how Ferris has something great to see or do in all seasons. It showed an amazing view of the spring runoff and high water from the bridge. The video has 861 views and our facebook page now has 425 Likes.

New Business

Nothing new at this time. This was a semi-casual meeting with the intent to promote engagement and a better understanding between Ontario Parks and the Friends. General discussion was encouraged. The only structured topics were basic housekeeping and updates.

Financials

John provided a brief summary of the current financials.

Ontario Parks

Rob thanked the Friends for their support and wanted to let them know that all of their work and effort are appreciated. He also wanted to clarify the Friend-Ontario Parks relationship. He and Ontario Parks are appreciative of what we do, but wanted us to know that sometimes he can't support all of the things that we would like. This is not out of lack of caring or interest, or to be insulting, but their top priority is the paid campers and visitors and some things they can't make time for, while others may not be supported by the overall directives. He wants us to continue to bring things to him and his staff and he will do what he can.

This allowed to an opportunity for Barb to ask for more timely feedback for when things we propose won't be able to be done or accommodated rather than putting them off if it's clear that it's not a possibility. Rob responded that he will try to be more timely and transparent when he won't be able to do things.

Next meeting: May 18th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Ferris Park Office