

March 2012 Minutes – FOYC

Attendance: Ken Sherwood, Ken Bisbee, Cindy Rogers, Ben Scherf, Kelly Thompson, Pat Scanlon, James Whitacre, GE Smith

Announcements

Park Manager's Report - Ken B.

They opened the water treatment plant today.

Roof project on office was done last month but still have leaks.

They are half way through re roofing a rest room

They are in the process in re-habilitating three buildings by the beach to be more green and a better size for the number of people that use the beach, however that may not happen.

Budget – Gov has proposed new budget – state park budget was decreased but they will be able to use the MS monies to make up the deficit. So the budget will be about equal to last year. BUT Gov budget wants to get rid of the Keystone Fund for the parks also. Friends group money come from that, small local projects, and funding for large projects like the beach project. If the budget is as it stands we will lose 38 million dollars across the state.

Without the Keystone Fund they only have enough to cover 2 facility breakdowns in the year. If there are more State Parks that have problems, they may have to close facilities. As part of Kens report annually, Yellow Creek's weakest link is our electrical system and sewage system. If that breaks down it would effectively close us down including the Boy Scout camp. If the Keystone Fund is cut it would have dire affects for all the State Parks. It would not affect our general budget but it will eliminate any building projects or upgrades. For us it will eliminate the beach project that has been started. Any projects that need to be fixed cannot be done. The office, restrooms, boat rental building, beach buildings all are in desperate need to be repaired. If they aren't fixed they may have to close them. As of this date for this fiscal year (2011-2012), all our money is spent. Ken said we have never run out of money this early in the fiscal year.

The good news is – under the Green Parks Initiative program we will get a propane power turf mower. The other good news is that Ken got a letter – a donation was made specifically to YC for the planting of trees. It was \$50.00 and PFFF will match it so we have \$100.00 to plant trees.

Passport program – we now have the stickers. A person came in today for one.

Ken has had lots of requests for topo maps.

** Ken S. made a Motion to send a letter to Rep. Reed and Sen. White about the Keystone Fund and how it will affect our park. Pat seconded. All approved. Ken will draft the letter.

Cycling Report

Kelly said they will start in March and go till October. They will donate same amount of proceeds. Every new racer that buys a tag and \$10.00 comes to FOYC.

Boating Report

- There are 4 more puddle ducks being built. Approval for using FOYC to collect, reimburse for PDR project was discussed. Ken discussed the way materials are

bought to make the boats. It would be better to track the money if people go through FOYC. There would be a lag time but if that is ok it would not be a problem. **Motion to use FOYC as the banker for the boat building. There would be no money in or out other than the building costs. Ben so moved. Ken seconded. All approved.

- Hatches: 3/24 and 4/1 - boat building construction at the corner of 5th and Church.
- 2 Eagle Scout boats ready to move to the park; Ken S. asked if FOYC would fund mooring/launch permits. They have to have to get the launch permit anyway - \$10.00 for one year. All agreed that FOYC would pay for the launch permit.
- Ken B. signed off on an Eagle Scout project to build racks for the boats.

Budget – Kelly will get us the number of members we currently have. There is nothing new on the budget.

CHC Report – New legislation has reduced what the County can do in an ordinance, what we wanted originally will not be possible. What the county is going to do is that they can do a setback from the border of the state park. Co is going to recreate the buffer zone and call it a “setback”. The new ordinance only has to go to the PUC if it is challenged. 500 feet is an arbitrary number – it has to be reasonable. They feel 500 feet is reasonable. CHC wants the strongest possible protection. The setback will include coal mining also. G asked if the board of FOYC if they thought 1000 feet is reasonable. Our County will probably send our ordinance to the PUC regardless if it is 500 or 1,000. There is a good argument for 1000 feet since we lost the buffer zone. The industry can go horizontal and still get the gas. We agreed that we would support the 1000. It would be up to the commissioners if they include 1000 or not. This will also apply to the county parks. MDS did not get permission to go around the lake. Now they will have to replace the line under the lake if they want to do that.

Old Business

Finalizing the Topographic/Hydrographic Map – price almost doubled for the maps. Our plan was to get printing costs to print the map from the ads. So far we have 3-\$250.00 (Richland Marine, Clear Shade Boats, Doug Crytzer from Indiana) filled and a \$500 ad filled. That leaves 3 – one \$500 and 2 - \$250.00's Ken talked to Allegheny Bass club – they will have a monthly meeting this month and decide if they will take one, Gingerbread is interested. Also the two bike shops might be interested although they may want to buy in bulk. We can check the Bed and Breakfasts. Coy's, C and D general store. Also YC campground. Cindy to send Ben the name of B&B's in the area. We discussed paper qualities. We all liked the original paper and did not like the new options. We want durability. Total printing cost right now for 1000 maps is \$2,357.66 – We can deduct tax from that. We need the ads finalized by March 30th with logos and checks. Need to go to the printer by April 1st. Trout starts the week before Easter. Docks go in April 1st and fishermen will be soon to follow. We want maps available as soon as possible.

To do yet – Cover, credits, write up for FOYC information, (Logo and mission from pamphlet). Kelly will send the logo. Kelly and James will meet to finalize a few things yet.

Summary of the Annual Report; It is done and will be sent in after tonight with signatures from the board. Ken reported 36 projects, 15 events, 400 people in attendance, \$730.00 in volunteer hours. More detail in report. We need to re-affirm board members, all present signed of forms for conflict of interest.

New Business

Approving New Board members:

**Ken moved that Pat Scanlon, G Smith and Aaron Kovach be approved as board members. Ben seconded. All approved.

Planning the April 22nd "Spring Kickoff" on Earth Day (2-4pm) We are going to send a invitation letter to other volunteers at the Park and invite them to come to the "Kickoff" and become members in addition to our list, and the Todd bird club, and bike racing list. We would have snacks and a program. We should have a 15 min talk about who we are and what we do, and our importance to the Park. It will be a launch of the new map. Any new member that night gets a new map or a T-shirt. We should do an RSVP on the invitations. We should also invite the YC staff. The program (about 15 minutes) will be about the new map. James will send Ken a program description. Snacks will be home made. There is a Mt bike race that day in the morning till about noon. Ken B. agreed that we could end the program with a pontoon boat trip around the lake. Kelly will coordinate a food list.

April (or May) meeting PPF training workshop:

- ... we are also offering, with the assistance of a grant from the R.K. Mellon Foundation, a series of individualized training sessions for our western PA chapters. Peggy Morrison Outon, of the Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management can visit in April.

Next Meeting:

Thurs 4/12 at 7pm We can make any last minute plans for the 22nd. Ken described the PPF offer (as above) for a free program. All agreed it would be interesting and we should do it. Ken will ask if it could be in June but if not April is OK.