

FINAL

Little Big Forest Stewardship Committee

Minutes - Monthly Meeting – 3/20/24

Bob Winterbottom called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members Present: Robert Winterbottom (Chair), Tim Rowehl (Vice Chair), Terri LaRoche (Secretary), Geoff Jones, Milosh Bukovcan, Maggie Forrestall, Jaelynn Stetson. Student Leaders Present – Jaxon Leonard, Rebecca Meyer and Cooper Mullahy

Members unable to attend: Craig Walker, Jason Kovarik and Student Leaders Peyton Allain and Charlotte Miller

Public Present: Loren Patton, Mary Meyer, Donald Meyer and Paul Fiondella

General Housekeeping

Review of Minutes – February 21st SC meeting. Bob invited comments on the 2/21/24 meeting minutes. Tim made a motion to approve, Jaelynn seconded, unanimously approved.

Con Com Updates related to LBF

- The Con Com is now under new Leadership with Jason Kovarik as Chair, Bob Fee as Vice Chair and Jaelyn Stetson as Secretary/Treasurer.
- Kiosk Info for the panels was provided to Don Healy. The Con Com agrees with having the Kiosk built (hire out) with a starting allocation of \$2500.00.
- There has been no progress on Parking lot as Aaron Bryer had not attended the Con Com Meeting. Concerns were noted that that this has been three meetings missed and we have had significant delay here and LBF scheduled activities will soon be taking place.
- Boundary Blazing will take place on March 30th at 9AM, meet at the gate off of Eva Lane. All are welcome to attend.
- The Con Com approved the School Transport (bus) request submitted by Maggie Forestall so she is cleared to proceed with it.

Student Leaders

The students presented their final choice for a JFES/LBF logo, it was complimented by all. They had four different versions and the students (without collaborating) all selected the same version presented tonight. Great job!

A question was posed regarding T-shirts with the new logo, should they be limited to just students or should staff also be included? As our hope is to be able to leverage the JFES activities, including photo's for both social media and reporting to foundations, all agreed that both the students and staff should get T-Shirts.

May 17th is the planned JFES Hike/Field Day. They will Hike, have Lunch and visit station choices. Stations will be: Measuring trees, Insect/Animal, Natural Materials/Art and Games. It was questioned if

a Waterfront station would be possible for Fishing (and in future Boating). This will be evaluated during the March 30th Blazing Visit to LBF.

Maggie outlined the supply needs, Porta- Potty, Water/Jugs, Bug Spray, First Aid Kit, Picnic Tables etc. as well as the need for storage. The group felt we should start with a seasonal Porta-Potty but this eventually could be a composting or incinerating toilet. Tim suggested locking the cabin for now for storage, Loren Volunteered to install the lock. It is initially thought that Tables should go on the porch, but that needs evaluation. Porta-potty placement as well as Porch Space for tables will be evaluated on the 3/30 Blaze Hike. Jaelynn will take charge/point on supplies, Maggie will email the list.

It was noted that T-shirts should be obtained in time for the 5/17 event and that Foundations should be notified as they could attend.

Stoddard Celebrate 250 Hike – Jaelynn indicated the Hike is scheduled for September 14th and will be introductory in nature regarding points of interest such as Mushrooms, Trees, Rocks etc. It was thought we should have brochure/maps at the store, Terri Indicated they should bring that to the 250th committee first.

Suggested Actions regarding LBF from Davis Library/Stoddard Recreation Survey

Bob indicated the top items from the “survey on recreation funds” were group hikes, a sledding hill, trail Maps (not just LBF) and a safe swimming area. Terri did clarify the intent of the current Trustee Funds isn’t necessarily “let’s figure out how to spend it” and there also will be a warrant article on recreation this year. The group agreed that LBF could not be leveraged for Sledding nor for a Beach/Swimming. A good discussion ensued on the general need for Trail Maps/Brochures consistently across community resources, and perhaps the recreation funds could be leveraged to fund brochures.

Conservation Award – with the recent loss of Paul Crosby, Geoff is looking into a potential annual award (ideally at Town Meeting) to the Conservation “Volunteer of the Year” and calling it the Paul Crosby Stewardship Award. All thought this was a wonderful idea and great way to honor him. Bob made a motion to support this, seconded by Tim and all unanimously agreed.

In the interest of time, other agenda items were deferred to next meeting. Geoff made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tim, all were in favor and meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Minutes submitted by Terri LaRoche – SC Secretary