

Friends of Oil Creek State Park

July 7, 2011

In attendance:

- Jake Weiland, Robin Baker, Kirby Neubert, Carl Meinstereifel, Peg Sims, Jake Weiland, John Kolojchick, Rob McCall, Art Cubbon, and Libby Culbertson
- Guests :
 - Lee Ann Reiners- Oil Creek 100
 - Pam Metzger- Parks and Forest Foundation

6:00 PM- The meeting was called to order, and the minutes from June were read and approved.

Lee Ann Reiners- Oil Creek 100:

- At the time of the meeting 223 runners were signed up for the race.
- The 50k filled very quickly. The other races are expected to be filled.
- The pasta dinner:
 - Two types of pasta were requested. In addition, macaroni and cheese and lasagna were also requested.
 - The sauce will be done by the same lady as last year.
 - Tom Jennings will talk directly to the group.

Pam Metzger- The Parks and Forest Foundation:

- Pam noted that The Parks and Forest Foundation would be glad to be of service to any Oil Creek State Park's initiatives. She had a nice day biking in the park.

Park Manger's report:

- Jake introduced and welcomes Robin Baker as the new Park Naturalist. He is very happy to have Robin. She comes with great credentials and has already begun to implement some exciting programs.
- There are interviews being held for other Park positions.
- Drake Well Park and Oil Creek State Park are collaborating in an effort to benefit both parks.
- The Boy Scouts are enjoying the resources provided by the Park- especially at the cross country warming hut area.
- The state of Ohio continues to win in park attendance...
- The old rental bicycles were sold for scrap metal, and new spiffy bikes were purchased with the money received.
- Brochures are being updated to be specific to various park activities i.e.- biking, hiking, skiing, etc.

- Jake summarized the geocaching event. The Oil Creek Railroad and the Park were used for part of this huge activity. It was a great success. There were approximately 800 participants with the majority of the players being from outside of PA.

Robin Baker Park Naturalist:

- Robin expressed her enthusiasm to be part of the Oil Creek Staff.
- She passed out excellent Oil Creek State Park Environmental Program brochures.
- She is great addition to the staff.

Old Business:

- August 13th is the biathlon. Peg reviewed what is still needed. She requested that each FOCSP board member seek donations for the event. She stressed how important it is especially when considering the biathlon is the biggest fund raiser. She passed around a volunteer signup sheet for specific biathlon events.
- Some discussion was focused on new memberships. It was noted that better advertisement is needed. There was a suggestion that the Friend's group could be more visible at events such as OC 100.
- The trail signs are still in the works.

New Business:

- The idea to have a screen/dvd/slide show for public viewing was discussed. The screen would be recessed in the breezeway at the park office. This was Kirby's idea, and he thought views of the four seasons at Oil Creek would be nice.
- Firewood at the Adirondacks is still an issue. Possibly charging a fee or asking for donations would create a sense of conservation with the campers as well as defray some of the mounting firewood cost.
- In the future, efforts need to be made to keep the Friends' meetings on track. The membership needs to respect this by TRYING to delete side bar discussions and save incidentals for the individuals or committees affected by these discussions.

A huge thanks to Jake for keeping the Park in order and functioning well during the staff upheaval.