

**Friends of Potato Creek  
Board Meeting Minutes - November 16, 2006**

In attendance: Ralph Champion, Mark Daily, John Richardson, Brian Krueger, Tim Cordell, Jim Webb, and Linda Matzat.

Chair, Brian Krueger opened the meeting.

John Richardson gave the Treasurer's Report. After correcting last month's balance, and adding a deposit of \$92, the current balance stands at \$703.47. John indicated that there had been no progress on our tax-exempt status. Tim Cordell noted that it might be possible to receive grant money to pay for the services of an attorney to expedite the process. Ralph Champion ordered and is awaiting delivery of a book about forming tax-exempt organizations. Tim will check into the requirements for applying for a grant from the Natural Resources Foundation (NRF). John will contact Stephen Studer to see if we can complete this task.

Brian noted that our current membership stands at 40. Ralph will update the membership list with information on new members. It was noted that there were 26 in attendance at tonight's meeting.

John is currently working up a list of possible fund raising events and a list of possible uses of funds raised.

The 2007 schedule was discussed. After discussion the schedule stands as follows:

Jan. -	July 21 – continue painting park signs
Feb. 24 – paint park signs	July 28 – raindate for July 21
Mar. – workday on mountain bike trail	Aug. 4 – “Tater Traditions”
Apr. 21 – pull garlic mustard	Sept. 29 – National Public Lands Day
Apr. 28 – campground clean-up	Oct. 27, 28 – Halloween activities
May 5,6 – campground welcome back & bicycle safety	Nov -
June – Potato Creek Festival	Dec. -

Tim indicated that Northern Indiana Mountain Bike Association (NIMBA) members would like to begin work on the mountain bike trail on December 2, 2006 at 8:30 am. In regard to the 2007 schedule, Tim will check on a specific date for the March mountain bike workday. In regard to the campground workday, Ralph indicated a need to trim low hanging branches and level some sites, in addition to general clean-up. After discussion, it was agreed that this workday be limited to those 18 years old and above. It was also agreed that we provide workers at the park's booth at the Potato Creek Festival in June. Volunteers could also raise funds by selling “Friends” shirts at the booth. Tim expressed a desire to have an activity on Sept 29 in conjunction with National Public Lands Day, sponsored by Toyota. It was agreed to include it in the schedule. Tim also noted that “Tater Traditions” was scheduled for Aug 4<sup>th</sup> and that he would need volunteers to assist on that day.

It was noted that Kathy Serrat had been to the bank to sign the signature card for the Friends checking account.

Ralph provided information on a suggested membership drive. He recommended a point system as follows: 1 point per individual membership, 2 points per family membership, 3 points per nonprofit membership, and 5 points per corporate membership. Ralph volunteered to track membership points. The length of time to run the drive was discussed. Tim moved to run the membership drive for three months, beginning on January 1, 2007 and ending on March 20, 2007 and to award prizes as follows: first prize would be a State Park Pass, second prize a "Friends" shirt, and third prize a patch and a mug. Ralph seconded the motion. Motion carried. It was suggested that the name of the sponsoring member be included on the membership form to receive credit. Mark will make a note of this on the newsletter. Tim will make mention of it on the website.

Discussion of the bike safety program was tabled.

Tim indicated that he had been contacted by Beneficial Finance. They are interested in giving a grant to Potato Creek State Park. Tim suggested they consider giving funds to the "Friends" group. Tim will keep us posted.

John brought up the matter of stationary. Tim suggested that the secretary handle correspondence. Mark moved that Linda send a thank-you note to Randy Showalter, our speaker for tonight's meeting. Ralph seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ralph presented a proposal for standard procedures for presenting ideas for new projects. He suggested that ideas be presented to the Chairperson in writing by the Committee Chair. The Chairperson would present the proposal to the Board for review. No action would be taken without approval of the Board. Ralph made a motion as such. John seconded the motion. Motion carried.

In regard to the subject of the Smokey sign, Tim reported that the park was not interested in replacing the sign.

John brought up two ideas for the board to consider.

- 1) Possibly scheduling the board meeting at a different time/date than the general meeting.
- 2) Proposal for a budget for 2007. He would like feedback at the Jan meeting. It was noted that there would be no need to include funds for the website in 2007, as website domain is for 10 years.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Linda Matzat in absence of Secretary, Kathy Serrat.

**FRIENDS OF POTATO CREEK STATE PARK**

**PROPOSED DRAFT BUDGET 2007** (as prepared by John Richardson)

Beginning Balance	\$500.00
Income:	
Memberships	\$1,500.00
Donations	\$500.00
Merchandise Sales	\$100.00
Events	<u>\$ -0-</u>
	\$2,100.00
Expenses	
Insurance	\$474.00
Safe Deposit Box	\$ 96.00
Web Site	\$100.00
Newsletter (printing & mailing)	\$500.00
Merchandise	\$ 50.00
Events	<u>\$500.00</u>
	\$1,730.00
Proposed Balance end of fiscal year 2007	\$870.00