

Friends of Potato Creek State Park Meeting Minutes  
3/17/09      Location: PCSP Nature Center      7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

**2009 Balance Sheet**

Memberships:	\$130.00
Special Events:	\$220.96
Park Supply	\$284.14
General Op's	\$2121.52
Grants & Donations	\$2255.92
Campion Memorial	\$725.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$5737.54</b>

**Treasurer's report as of 3/17/09:**

Memberships	\$20.00
End of year donations	
General donations	
Nature Center expenses	
Halloween expenses	
<b>Net change</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>

**Speaker:**

There was no speaker this month; it was time for the annual business meeting and election of officers.

**Business Meeting:**

Kathy read the meeting minutes from the February meeting, there were no corrections.

We also have the Egg Hunt on April 11<sup>th</sup>. We will need some volunteers, please see Marci if you are interested in helping. Volunteers should arrive early, around 8:30-9:30 AM. Meet at Peppermint Hill, the event starts at 10:30 AM. Chrissy is going to get some different types of eggs for the kids to look at. Linda said she may be able to get a lamb for the event. The Friend's group purchased a bunny costume for 130.00, it was much cheaper than renting one each year.

Treasurer's report was given-see details above.

Tim said that there will be a Job Fair at the Park this Saturday from 9-12. Four people will be hired for the summer. This would be a great opportunity to set up a Friend's Group table to try and solicit memberships. Marci will coordinate this effort for the Job Fair. The Nature Center Clerk job was eliminated so Tim is looking for volunteers to help fill this need.

Joyce Chambers talked about a group she is involved in, it is the GFWC/IFC Progress Club of South Bend. She may be able to obtain some funding for us for the Schrader Spring House.

There was some general discussion about meeting times and schedules for the Friends Group. We decided to leave it for now. Saturday was suggested as a possible alternative, but others would not be available. It is difficult to choose a date good for all concerned.

Marci suggested that we adopt a procedure to make and vote on motions via email. Tim read the bylaws and we may be able to do this under the "special meeting" clause. Board to discuss further.

We need a general review of the bylaws now that we have had the group for a few years. Tim suggested that a committee be formed to review all of them and make suggestions for changes. John made a motion,

Ralph seconded that we form a committee to review all the bylaws. Motion passed. Joyce, Marci, Chrissy and Ralph agreed to volunteer to do this. Marci to chair and coordinate.

We need a newsletter editor, Mark said he would continue long distance if we needed him, but it would be nice to get a local person to do it. Marci asked for volunteers and Melody agreed to do this. Melody will shoot for a May 1st deadline for the next newsletter.

The Cheryl Campion Fund was discussed and we decided to erect a plaque in Cheryl's honor at the Schrader Springhouse when it is completed.

There was some general discussion about the Friend's Group helping the Park more due to all the lost Park funds. The help needed is for volunteer work to help run events and programs.

It was suggested that we could schedule some workdays on a regular basis that we could post at the Campground and around the Park. For example, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month is Park cleanup day and we could meet at the Nature Center and work on the trails or whatever Tim thinks we should do.

We talked about rewards for members, we decided to make Membership cards and investigate window stickers. Kathy will start on the cards and investigate the cost of the window stickers. Speakers will receive a complimentary membership, Linda will send the names to Kathy and she will send cards to them.

#### **Suggestions-New business**

Next year we need to try and do something for our speakers. A high quality speaker could qualify for a speakers grant. This could be a Saturday event. We would need to plan this well in advance.

There was a concern about Halloween weekend and how it was scheduled this year. Since it fell on Halloween day, Tim scheduled for that day. Normally, it should be the last full week in October.

Gene spoke briefly about CO CO RAHS - if you volunteer for this you get training on how to record measurable precipitation with a complimentary rain gauge for a year. You will be asked to record your observations for rain, hail and snow on the internet. There is a training session on 3/24 in New Carlisle and on 4/7 in Hanna. The National Weather Service and teachers use this site for information. If you are interested, Gene has flyers in the back.

For our April meeting, Hoosier Bat will be speaking. Linda is publicizing.

Elections were held for 4 vacancies, there were 5 candidates. Ralph, Chrissy, Kathy and Melody were elected.

End of meeting.

The next meeting is April 21st at 7:00 PM at the Nature Center.

Marci reiterated that anyone at anytime can stay for the Board meeting.

Please check out our website at [www.friendsofpotatocreek.org](http://www.friendsofpotatocreek.org) to stay up to date with events.