

Friends of Rathdrum Mountain - Meeting Summary for 03/15/2007

Purpose: Regular monthly meeting of the Friends of Rathdrum Mountain and of the Board of Directors

Attendees:

- Directors: Wes Du Charme, Carey Kaplan, Toby Kaplan, Jim Ochenkoski, Deasa Stein, John Sylte
- Director absentees: George Holcomb
- Others: Pete Stoltz

Agenda:

1. Guest speaker: Linda Ely, Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control Department

Linda provided several documents to facilitate the preparation of a weed management plan. She also provided information related to biological controls, herbicides, and native plants. Linda stated that in addition to assisting in further weed surveys and seeking support through U of I, her department will provide biological control insects to the Friends group at no charge. There is a bio-release workshop scheduled for July in Coeur d'Alene for which Linda will provide more details

2. Old business:

- a. Using the information provided by Linda Ely, FoRM will prepare a weed management plan for presentation to the City. The plan will include both biological and herbicide controls for the areas of the Mountain that have already been surveyed and a more extensive survey from which further actions can be determined. The involvement of local groups (Boy Scouts, School groups, Sheriff's Work Program) in executing the plan will be evaluated once a plan is adopted.

- b. FoRM received an update from City Administrator Brett Boyer regarding his progress in addressing public access to the City's property on the Mountain. Brett expects to have a complete report for the City Council meeting on 04/09/07.

- c. An exclusive Mountain tour for FoRM members and supporters is tentatively planned for 06/09/07. This event will be held on the City's property pending approval by the City. As stated previously, the purpose is to increase awareness of and interest in FoRM's efforts.

- d. Wes is still looking into the appropriate designation and/or zoning for the City's property on the Mountain now that it has been labeled "Conservation Land" in the approved Parks Plan.

- e. Jim reported on the projected sale of the Siverson Trust property, 160 acres to the west of and contiguous with the City's property. He is pursuing the potential for FoRM's involvement with the goal of establishing a conservation easement on the property.

f. Jim is continuing to pursue info from the National Wild Turkey Federation regarding their interest in activities on the Mountain.

g. Toby is still checking on the availability of Charles McDevitt from the Idaho Foundation for Parks & Lands to conduct a workshop regarding conservation easements, etc.

3. New business:

a. Deasa will look into reserving space for the FoRM booth at Rathdrum Days. A discussion of potential booth displays and activities will be conducted at our next meeting.

4. Board of Directors:

a. Meeting summaries from 01/18/07 and 02/15/07 were approved by vote in favor 6, opposed 0.

b. Treasurer's report:

Checking Account			
Beginning Balance		\$690.81	
Debits	\$70.00		<i>satellite image</i>
Credits	0		
Ending Balance		\$620.81	

NICSC 501c3 Account			
Beginning Balance		\$2400.00	
Debits	0		
Credits	\$40.00		<i>donation</i>
Ending Balance		\$2440.00	

Note: The following items will be reported next month: -\$28.30 for mounting and laminating the satellite image; -\$38.00 for P.O. Box renewal; -\$300.00 for 501c3 application; +\$30.00 donation; +\$38.00 donation. It is also anticipated that there will be an expense for having the satellite image framed.

c. The following Directors whose terms expire this year were nominated for continued service: Wes Du Charme, Toby Kaplan, and John Sylte. Elections will be held next month.

d. All current Officers were nominated to serve for another year's term. Elections will be held next month.

e. Our 501c3 application has been completed and will be submitted within a week.

f. Promotional magnets, stickers, balloons, and other items were discussed. An assessment of cost vs. benefits and near term budgeting will continue next month.

g. The tree planting event proposed last month will be considered for incorporation as a reforestation element in the weed management plan.

h. It was determined that attendance at the NW Land Trust Conference in Missoula, MT in May would not be cost-effective at this time.

i. The continued review of Long Term Goals and Action Items was deferred to our next meeting.

5. Next meetings:

Regular monthly meeting: Thursday, April 19th at 6:30 pm in the Community Center at Golden Spike Estates. Guest Speaker: Shelley Tschida, Quality Services Inc.