

Friends of Hashawha and Bear Branch (FHBB)

FINAL Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2022, 7pm

In person at BBNC with a virtual option, link was sent out June 2nd

friendshbb@gmail.com

Attendees:

Michelle Scott (Chairperson)	Robert Scott
Nicole Bowman (Vice Chairperson) (virtual)	Ken Harris (MORE)
Maggie Kunz (Public Affairs Officer) (virtual)	Jason Irla (MORE)
Harold Scott (virtual)	Dawn Harry (Bear Branch Nature Center)
Alison Malachowski	Kristin Darby

1) Call to Order

- a) Call to order 7:05
- b) June 2, 2022 minutes approved

2) Reports

- a) Treasurer's report read by Michelle (forwarded Chris' email)
 - Chrissy Gallo's Yoga and Forest bathing classes discussed. Chrissy is certified and is a contracted instructor with the county. Proceeds from the class fees will go to FHBB at Chrissy's discretion.
 - First Aid class will need to be fronted up to \$2100 (\$185pp, limit 14). Money reimbursed after RecDesk process fees
 - Dawn continuing to work on getting the FHBB's money from the Egg Hunt, about \$1000 still due from RecDesk (she's making progress!)
 - Money for camp t-shirts , a check has been cut to Dawn , to be delivered next week
 - Debit cards are now functional
- b) Social Media
 - still looking for more posts and ideas, MD-MTB sharing FHBB posts on their sites
 - Chrissy Gallos to join Social media team in September
 - Looking for someone to help with a newsletter
- c) Park and Nature Center Operations
 - Parking and road paving finished
 - Walkway across median to connect pavilion and nature center almost complete
 - Survey being done for pavilion
 - Need new restricted access signs
 - Summer residential camp and day camp are up and running
 - Animal care covered by volunteers, desk coverage also filled with volunteers most days
 - Nature center had a leaky pipe in the wall and a small flood in the exhibit hall- fixed by facilities

3) Projects

- a) Gardens
 - July 16 or 17, 8am, next garden event to tackle pond area and groundhog
 - Sign made for tribute garden- need Brad's approval
- b) Trails
 - Will pick up Share the Trail signs soon
 - Incorrect trail markers yet again appear in equestrian area trails
 - Concerns about heavy spraying with Round Up near streams- NOT the County

- Recent bike event went well, looking into a Minority Bikers event
- Jason mentioned Meet Up app used on MORE site to advertise events, suggested use for FHBB, Maggie will look into it
- New trail project being planned on Switchback trail in Union Mills side, perhaps mid August for another trail work day

c) FHBB Logo

- Design selected via email vote. Details regarding specific images discussed - flowers, cabin, owl, dark colors, red, blue and/or brown. See the 3 logos below.
- Waiting on printing formats to be emailed back
- Hope to get this added to flier in time for July 15 Summer Bash



4) Events

a) Monarch Festival Planning

- County has several activities planned and food covered
 - Face painting, butterfly tagging, animal ambassadors, crafts, games, planting for pollinators talk
- Plant swap?
- FHBB can help provide volunteers
- Jason suggested (and offered to contact) McDaniel College ArtClub to help with face painting

b) Run for the Raptors

- On June 12th, Michelle and Nicole met with Brian Gardiner, an avid runner in the area, who offered to organize and promote this event, along with other possible 5k events.
- Date is Oct 1st at 9 am. Sign-in is at 8:30 am. Cost is \$35 for 5K, \$25 for 2K
- T-shirts being offered for 1st 50 registered (keep shirts under \$25)
- Food and snacks planned, volunteers needed along route
- Need to find sponsors
- Will be added to the County Fall Guide

c) Duck Hunt

- Details in the works, don't plan on soliciting for big family prizes until September
- Will be added to the County Fall Guide

5) New Business

a) Accreditation

- FHBB has a checklist of things to do and submit, will contact Lisa to clarify parks vs. sports council requirements
- W9 tax form required
- All due by Oct. 31st

b) Wilderness First Aid course

- Two-day class, Sept 24-25, cost is \$185 per person with a \$35 profit per person, limit 14 people. Description in County Fall guide

c) Weed Warriors

- There is not much support for the program from the County or the Forestry Board, even though both see the need
- Dave Parker explained in an email that the coordination effort for the program is more than a simple volunteer job and needs financial support for a paid position of some kind.
- Nicole mentioned that she is qualified to train people but there has been very little interest in the past
- Will try to contact Jamie Weaver at Forestry Board

d) FHBB fliers

- Flier design shared through email, seemed most approved of last design. Dates for upcoming event and meeting on the back, need to add final logo design
- Hope to print out half page size fliers to hand out at the Summer Bash

e) Summer Bash July 15, 4-9pm, Carroll County Sports Complex

- Dawn and Jenna said we could borrow a table, a few mounts, a snake and turtle, some shells and fur
- We can also set up near the Bear Branch table that will have the birds
- Michelle will be there. Jason, Nicole, Alison all stepped up to assist at some point during the event.

f) Volunteer picnic

- FHBB would like to host a “thank you” picnic for the all the hard working volunteers in the park
- Need to check availability in October, thinking a potluck style. Maybe FHBB could provide drinks

g) Grant from Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

- Saw a posting about a \$1000 MDNR grant for trees that might be something the FHBB could apply for

6) Announcements

- Next FoCRP meeting July 12, 7pm attended by Jessica Horning
- Next FHBB meeting Aug 4, chaired by Nicole

7) Meeting closed at 8:25pm