



Friends of Hashawha Bear Branch

300 John Owings Road
Westminster, MD 21157-3149
410-386-3560
friendsofhbb@gmail.com

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2023, 7pm

In-person at BBNC with a virtual option. A link was sent out prior to the meeting.

friendsofhbb@gmail.com

In-Person Attendees:	Virtual Attendees:
Michelle Scott (Chairperson)	Mitch Masser
Nicole Bowman (Vice Chairperson)	Will Horning
Chris Markle (Treasurer)	Shelly Ryan
Sarah Franz (Secretary)	Harold Scott
Jason Irla (Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts)	Jenna Mele (BBNC)
Ken Harris (Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts)	Jessica Larue
Maggie Kunz (Public Affairs Officer)	
Alison Malachowski	
Dawn Harry (BBNC)	
Robert Scott	

1. Call to Order

- a) Welcome and Introductions
- b) Review and approve May meeting minutes.

2. Reports

a) Treasurer

- i. We have \$6,966.62 in Total Funds
 - i. \$888.59 in Animal Funds
 - ii. \$484.69 in Garden Funds
 - iii. \$5,593.34 in General Funds
- ii. \$70.95 spent in reimbursements for Earth Day supplies and sign holders.
- iii. Will be purchasing lunch for the Hill Yeah! event. Not to exceed \$250.00.
- iv. Discussion on setting up and tracking an advertising fund? Would include the stickers, and maybe the shirts?
- v. Pizza at non profit rate
- vi. Paid for square space
- vii. Mailchimp free
- viii. Advertising FB/Instagram \$25 per ad average
- ix. Could make budget item for advertising - will add \$250 for next meeting

b) Social Media





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- i. Newsletter going well but just having time to do it
- c) Park Operations
 - i. New walkway at residential camp. Still working on the walkway in front of the main building at the residential camp.
 - ii. Tree plantings in progress. Donna's Forest Dedication Ceremony will be July 9th. Donna Griffith was a middle school teacher and passed away.
 - iii. Stormwater management will be installed for the nature center and the pavilion.
- d) Nature Center
 - i. Spring field trips season was very successful. Need volunteers for the summer.
 - ii. New volunteer to help Jenna to earn capstone hours. Jessica is helping with weekends and field trips. Two more adult volunteers will be joining to help where needed.
 - iii. Enclosure ready for kestrel to move in temporarily. Owl and kestrel paperwork is being processed.
 - iv. Looking to buy a scale for larger birds and astro-turf for enclosure. Chris asked Jenna to send a quote for each and will initiate a vote to purchase. Local community college or Coppermine may have scraps that can be used.
 - v. Fall programs due June 21st to be added to RecDesk and Fall Program

3. Old Business

- a) Hill Yeah!
 - i. Registration is closed.
 - ii. Pizza will be purchased by FHBB for lunch.
 - iii. Signage and other park prep will go up June 2.
- b) Trails
 - i. Trail maintenance has been ongoing due to a high amount of ride days and are cleared.
 - ii. Still working the re-routing.
- c) Gardens
 - i. Bricks are waiting to be laid.
 - ii. Planned plantings are ongoing, but some are difficult due to lack of rain.
 - iii. Basil plants died due to fungus, so needed to replace them.
 - iv. Jenna made signs to keep people out of the ponds and gardens.
- d) Butterfly House
 - i. Will plan a meeting to go through the application for funds. Application is due Sep. 9.
 - ii. Two estimates are ready, waiting on a third before presenting to the board. Leaning towards Maryland Plants and Supplies.
- e) Dog Poop Station
 - i. Looked into different stations and costs for what they come with. Dawn said the county said no and the park maintenance staff will not empty the receptacles. Need to continue looking at the best method for the park.



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4. New Business

- a) Family Summer Fest at Freedom Park in Sykesville
 - i. Fri June 23, 4:30-9pm
 - ii. Volunteers needed to assist Michelle
 - iii. Suggestions on what to present.
- b) Volunteer of the Year Nominations
 - i. Looking for nominations.
- c) Raptor Mews Work Day
 - i. Sat June 24, 9a-12p
 - ii. Clean-up of outside of mews and minor maintenance.
 - iii. Volunteers needed.
- d) Discussion of MOU with County regarding price increase and limit RecDesk use options
 - i. Piney Run voted on requesting to increase membership fee to offset some of the operations cost. Will continue to look into it and see if we need to follow suit and vote on it.
 - ii. Discussion of limiting RecDesk use of the 80/20 split for registering for programs. However, Dawn explained that other cash transactions are 100% FHBB, and RecDesk needs these funds to operate.. Piney Run gets 100% of their registrations for several reasons.
- e) IRS compliance/ fiscal budget/ by law vote
 - i. This was resolved via email. FHBB bylaws are in compliance.
- f) Can we set up a donation button on our website?
 - i. Does it go through a third party, or is there some other fee? Can it be deposited directly into the bank account? Will continue to look into it and see what the best option is.
- g) Anyone interested in looking into a Martin House Pole? Like the one at Krimgold Park, for example.
 - i. Casey NestWatch or other organizations may donate one
- h) Raptor Run in October? Do we have a coordinator?
 - i. Hard to get interest due to lots of other runs that season
 - ii. Suggestion of Bike for the Raptors, or changing the name/activity base, or have a activity with raptors \$5 pay-as-you-come. Other suggestions were mentioned, but further discussion is needed. Jason and Ken will bring it up with MORE.
 - iii. Proceeds to go the raptors
 - iv. Date is not set yet, but need to decide something and get it in the Fall Program
- i) Duck Hunt date is Nov. 4th with a rain date of Nov. 18.

5. Announcements/Upcoming Events

- a) June 3- Hill Yeah event
- b) June 10- Charlotte's Quest Community Day





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- c) June 23- Family Summer Fest
- d) June 24- Raptor Mews Work Day
- e) July 6- Next FHBB Meeting
- f) July 25- FoCRP meeting

Motion to adjourn – 8:15pm