



2019 Annual Membership Meeting

April 22, 2020

Via Video/Phone Conference Call

Our mission is to facilitate the conservation and enjoyment of the Lincoln Community Forest.



Outgoing Board Member Joe Zirn (Thank You Joe!!) and stalwart volunteers, Irv and Jan Berlin at our 2019 Picnic



NE corner of Forest in Fall 2019

***Visit the Lincoln Community Forest at:**

- Our website: www.friendslcf.com
- Find us on Facebook
- Contact us by email at: friendsoflincolnfc@gmail.com

Agenda for Annual Meeting:

Secretary's Report - Jack Wichita (Secretary)

Financial Report - Sheila Ossowski (Treasurer)

Election of board members

2019 accomplishments and 2020 plans - Pam Dryer, President

Other Business

Priorities and Accomplishments in 2019

Provide and maintain appropriate outdoor recreation opportunities for the public

- Built and marked the new Mikinaak Lake trail loop, with approval from Landmark.
- Improved gravel parking lot and driveway leading to it – we contracted with Nels Ritola to add and pack gravel and install a culvert. Also added gravel at Service Road entrance.
- Rerouted and cleared a new section of trail along the Marengo River bank that continues to slump.
- Met on site with trail expert Mel Baughman, who provided recommendations in a report to keep hikers out of wet/muddy areas and avoid erosion on hills. We are writing grants to build 5 boardwalks that will be installed by WisCorps.
- 8 volunteers in early summer and 14 in the fall helped maintain trails, which included clearing of stumps, brush and overhanging branches, and posting trail blazes on all trails.
- Updated and replaced “You Are Here” trail maps at 15 sign posts at intersections of the trails during the fall work day.
- Groomed the maintained trails for classic and skate cross-country skiing, and fat biking, from November to March.
- Mowed the maintained trails for comfortable hiking from June to November 1.
- Raked and seeded three sections of the Boulevard Trail after Landmark Conservancy repaired damage left by logger’s equipment and subsequent 2018 rains.

Improve habitat and manage forest for fish and wildlife

- Conducted monitoring for nesting turtles at both turtle nesting sites. One nest hatched young.
- Monitored bat use of installed bat houses. Noted bat use; bat populations have declined significantly nationwide.
- 6 volunteers planted 100 red oak and 50 white spruce in the timber harvest area. Protected the oak from deer browse using tree tubes.

Engage the community and instill sense of pride by members and users in the forest and FLCF

- Held a successful, third annual appreciation picnic and fundraising event in August - 120 people attended and we made \$2,423 after deducting expenses.
- Widely distributed our brochures and placed ads and articles in Bottom Line News.
- Attended 2 public events to showcase the Friends of Lincoln Community Forest.
- The education events listed below and recreational opportunities above also meet this priority.
- Improved our ability to use social media – we have a tech-savvy team who are helping us communicate with you and interested public.

Provide opportunities to learn about forest wildlife and instill an appreciation of the natural resources around us.

- The Education Committee successfully completed the education programs that were funded partially by a \$1,500 grant from the Four Cedars Environmental Fund. Two programs were child-oriented that included live animals: Cable Natural History Museum and Zoomobile. Two were adult oriented given by natural resource professionals on wolf populations and climate change impacts on local fishery populations.
- Maintained the “little library” at the trailhead with children’s natural resources books.

Keep our organization strong

- We reached our initial goals of \$25,000 in the Forest Forever Fund endowment. The Board decided to not receive the disbursement from the fund in 2019, but to keep it in the fund for continued growth.
- Maintained a solid membership base of 152 up-to-date members. Membership breakdown: 17 Individual, 51 Family and 33 Life. 7 are NEW members. Additional 117 have joined that are not up-to-date, but are treated as members.
- We have solid finances, good Board communication and are well-positioned to accomplish our goals with donations, memberships and grants.
- The Board spent a ½ day identifying priorities and plans for the next 3 years. (see 2020 plans below)

2019 Financial Report and 2020 Annual Budget

	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
	12.31.19	01.01.20
Cash Available	\$9,103	\$9,269
(Checking & Savings)		
Revenue/Income		
Annual Revenue	\$8,971	\$7,000
Cash Available	\$18,074	\$14,937
Expenses		
Membership/Communications	\$563	\$627
Forest Projects	\$4,534	\$3,780
Fundraising	\$1,009	\$1,515
Education	\$888	\$225
Endowment (FFF)	\$1,415	\$140
Operations	\$403	\$585
Annual Expenditures	\$8,812	\$6,872
Revenue vs. Expenditures	\$160	\$128
Total cash available December 31	\$9,269	\$8,065

2020 Priorities based on Board Planning Session

Keep the Face of the Forest appealing for people and wildlife:

- Trail maintenance and development of new trails – keep them inviting and safe. 2020 – 5 boardwalk installations planned pending grant funding; 3 grants have been submitted for WisCorps team to build and install.
- Maintain, monitor and tend new trees recently planted. Landmark and FLCF will conduct.
- Maintain, monitor and tend existing Wood Turtle and bat habitats with help from Turtles for Tomorrow.

Grow our Education program:

- Continue to expand programs both on and off site for all ages. FLCF funding budgeted for 2 adult programs. One grant was submitted for children’s programs and materials in 2020. This will include 4 activities on the Forest, to include field trips and citizen science monitoring.
- Maintain kiosk and little library. Landmark will update map.

Keep our organization viable:

- Develop a strong social media presence – we have a strong team in place.
- Ensure a strong relationship with Landmark Conservancy
- Ensure sound finances, including a healthy Forest Forever Fund, and viable picnic
- Board vitality and succession planning

2019 Board of Directors

Pam Dryer	pamdryer3@gmail.com	715.765.4131	President **
Mary Maguire	mmm3@cheqnet.net	715.765.4732	Vice –President **
Jack Wichita	j_wichita@yahoo.com	715.765.4132	Secretary **
Sheila Ossowski	ossowski@msn.com	715.765.4225	Treasurer **
Teri Isaac	craniac@cheqnet.net	715.765.3250	
Josh Clark	joshuajclark1@gmail.com	715.681.1428	
Aaron Swanson*	aswanson@centurytel.net	715.292.1384	
Joe Zirn*	jhansenzirn@gmail.com	715.798.4608	
Ed Johnston*	barkster99@yahoo.com	715.255.0015	
Kevin Brewster	kbrewster8@yahoo.com	715-617-5343	

* 3-year term expired and leaving board

** Officers will remain the same for 2020

Board candidates for April 22th, 2020 election

Tony Erba	theo.femur@gmail.com
Madelaine Rekemeyer	madelaine1078@gmail.com
Tom Keiser	tmkeiser9@gmail.com

Committees

Forest Projects: Mark Dryer, Chair

This Committee identifies and implements trail and wildlife projects in the Forest.

Fundraising: Mary Maguire, Chair.

This Committee identifies revenue sources and conducts actions to raise money.

Forest Forever Fund: Mark Dryer, Chair

This Committee develops and implements programs that provide for a permanent endowment.

Education: Teri Isaac and Kathy Zuelsdorff, Co-Chairs

This committee identifies and carries out education opportunities in relation to the Forest.

Communications and Membership: Pam Dryer, Coordinator (chair vacant)

This Committee recruits and maintains memberships, manages the member database, and conducts outreach.



Ed Johnson – Former Board Member - Thank you Ed!!