

STEWARDS OF FIRELANDS SCOUT RESERVATION

November 9, 2020

Notes

On November 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., the Stewards of Firelands Reservation met virtually in fellowship over a virtual video call. Fred Downey welcomed everyone to the meeting announcing this is the 29th year for the Stewards of Firelands Reservation. A representative Scout, Isabel Bardzilauskas – who served as a Senior Patrol Leader for this year’s National Youth Leadership Training course at Firelands – opened the meeting with the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Pledge of Allegiance. After recognizing the Stewards who had passed since the last meeting, Fred turned the meeting over to Jarrod Blundy, Camp Director at FSR.

Jarrold walked the Stewards in attendance through the steps to join the conversation through the video call either by speaking to the group over audio, or by entering their questions and comments into the text chat to be read by Phil Williams, Director of Camping Services, who served as producer for the virtual meeting. Jarrod then reintroduced Isabel as SPL of the 2020 NYLT Course, as well as John Zastawnik, the Course Director, to speak about the success they had during the leadership camp held at FSR during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Isabel and John spoke to the challenges that the pandemic introduced to a summer camp, including with food service, social distancing small-group patrols, wearing masks, and sanitizing group areas regularly. Despite the challenges, however, they felt the course was a great success with many Scouts learning how to better lead their own Troops, making new friends from across the council, and enjoying the opportunity to be back at Scout Camp after many months of being stuck at home. Isabel and John specifically called out Ranger Danny Thomas for having a beautifully maintained camp, and the help the rest of the summer support staff provided to make things run smoothly. Isabel and John turned the meeting back over to Jarrod to give an update about other programs at Firelands in the past year.

Jarrold called the Stewards’ attention to the many activities provided by Lake Erie Council to Scouts at Firelands in the 18 months since their last meeting. In 2019, he highlighted, that FSR welcomed over 500 Cub Scouts to their summer camp programs – Adventure Day Camp, Cub Scout Resident Camp, and Webelos Exploration Camp – which received some of the best feedback and ratings ever for FSR. In the “off-season”, Firelands hosts events for Scouts of all program levels at a rate of nearly two per month. Although camping and events slowed down at the start of the pandemic, Jarrod noted that since September FSR has again hosted many events, including a Fall Camporee, Cub Scout day events, and Cub Scout Overnights. In fact, just the previous weekend FSR hosted a Wild Wild Webelos Woods event for over 150 Webelos and their parents. The Scouts enjoyed learning many skills like first aid, fire building, knot tying, archery, BBs, and nature – plus fun rodeo games! – from the Scouts BSA staff. Overall, since May of 2019, Jarrod noted that FSR had hosted over 14,000 camper days. He thanked the Stewards for 29 years of generosity, and of changing lives. Jarrod then turned the meeting over to Ranger Danny Thomas to review the Stewards Projects that had been completed in the past year.

Danny Thomas gave a recap, supplemented with a picture slideshow, of last year’s Stewards Projects from the record \$47,000 donated in 2019. These included

- Program additions of a basketball hoop, soccer goals, and a new gateway at the Wyandot Shooting Ranges.
- The building of the Baden-Powell and Ewell Shelters with solar panels and electricity.

- Concrete projects at the Ranger Shop, Wyandot Chapel, and Baden-Powell, Webelos, and Ewell Shelters.
- Trail improvements with stone for the OA Trail, and a new auger for installing signage.
- Cabin improvements with the completion of the Lorain Exchange renovation and new windows there, as well as dehumidifiers installed in each of the cabins.

Most projects were already completed, with the Over the Hill Gang and Danny working hard to get the last of them – the bridge over Waldock Pond, a staircase up the sledding hill, landscaping at the Wyandot Amphitheater, and sound system upgrades at the Avery Hand Dining Hall – done soon.

Jarrold then showed a pre-prepared video to introduce each of the thirty proposed projects for 2020 so that the Stewards could see what was needed even while not actually being at camp. In preparation for project bidding, Jarrold announced that there were about 30 Stewards in attendance out of over 70 in total, 13 of which were new faces in attendance, all who pooled \$7,720 for collective bidding. He reminded the Stewards that anyone could make a motion to spend from the collective pool, and with a 2nd there would be discussion and a majority vote. Jarrold welcomed back Fred to lead the project discussions.

Fred and Danny announced that there were a few projects funded by individuals before motions were proposed:

- Mark Kikta donated the \$5,000 needed to build a new shelter for the boating area at Waldock Pond.
- The Ewell Family – Jim, Jay, Jon, and Jason – donated \$1,000 for four picnic tables at the Ewell Shelter.
- John Baddour donated \$7,115 worth of new radios and radio repeaters.
- Matt Smith donated six solar panels for the various proposed projects that need them valued at \$720.

After reminding the Stewards that they had \$7,720 to spend on camp improvements, Fred then opened the floor for motions and discussion of proposed projects. A list of proposed projects was supplied. The following motions were made:

- Justin Jeffery made a motion to commit the \$2,500 needed for the labor to build the new shelter for the boating area at Waldock Pond. Seconded by Rich Wirth. Motion carried.
- Chuck Gundlach made a motion to commit \$1,500 needed for the floating obstacle course for Waldock Pond. Seconded by Tim Carver. Motion carried.
- Tim Carver made a motion to commit the \$2,000 needed for the permanent spot for the mobile climbing wall with concrete and a split-rail fence. Seconded by Chris Konik. Motion carried.
- Rich Wirth made a motion to commit the \$300 needed to build six more archery stands for Camp Wyandot. Seconded by Chris Konik. Motion carried.
- Tim Carver made a motion to commit \$500 needed for one of the two gun safes. Seconded by Mark Kikta. Motion carried.
- Chuck Gundlach made a motion to commit \$900 to purchase two of the three ladders for the docks at Waldock Pond. This exhausted the pooled Stewards' money to spend.

The following projects were funded by individuals:

- Stone at the new boating area shelter at Waldock Pond donated by Justin Jeffery at \$300.
- Solar power at the new boating area shelter at Waldock Pond donated by John Baddour at \$500.
- One boat rack for Waldock Pond donated by the Devich Family (\$250), Fred Downey (\$500), and Kathleen Schultz (\$250).

- The third of three ladders for the docks at Waldock Pond donated by Fred Downey (\$150), Chuck Gundlach (\$150), and Mark Kikta (\$150).
- Three life ring installations for the expansion at Waldock Pond donated by Greg Coghlan at \$300.
- Four portable power supplies for CPAP/medical use donated by John Baddour (\$500), Fred Downey (\$250), and Mark Kikta (\$250).
- A hammock camping campsite installation donated by Chris Konik (\$500), and Orrin and Megan Stanforth (\$500).
- Concrete for one of the bays at the Maintenance Pole Barn donated by the Devich Family (\$550), the Over the Hill Gang (\$650), and Danny Thomas (\$300).
- New rock climbing holds for the Waldock Climbing Tower donated by Marc Amos at \$500.
- A new roof for the Waldock Climbing Tower donated by the Devich Family at \$1,500.
- Lights for night climbing on the Waldock Climbing Tower donated by Jarrod Blundy (\$200), Dale and Elaine DeGirolamo (\$200), Dave Keller (\$300), Mark Kikta (\$100), and Greg and Tami Schultz (\$200).
- Lights for night shooting at the Wyandot Rifle Range donated by Tim Carver at \$500.
- The second of two gun safes donated by Fred Downey at \$500.
- Stone for the wood shed donated by Erin Bringman valued at \$300.

Phil Williams, Director of Camping Services thanked the Stewards for their incredible generosity with donations totaling \$32,305. Phil reminded the Stewards that what Scouts learn at Firelands lasts far beyond their week at camp, just like the impact the Stewards have lasts for generations. Phil introduced Scout Executive, Marc Ryan – although unable to attend – with pre-recorded a message to the Stewards. Marc recognized the Stewards' generosity in providing for Firelands, and the visionary leadership of Fred Downey for founding the Stewards and being integral to its continuation for 29 years.

There being no further business, Fred Downey and Jarrod Blundy adjourned the meeting with the assurance that the Stewards would receive their commemorative patch in the mail with a thank you note.

2020 Stewards of Firelands

Marc Amos	Jay Ewell	Raymond Polson
David L. Asher	Jim and Barbara Ewell (In Memory of Jim Ewell Sr.)	Dale Resar
John Baddour	Jon Ewell	Donna Resar
Beth Baker	Sean Fahnestock*	Nicholas Resar
Matthew Bernotas	Robert Gentzel	Charles Richter
Jarrold Blundy	Melanie Gerken	Ellen Roberts
David Bosley	Richard Geysler	Bill Rundle
Erin Bringman*	Tim Gress	Kevin Salem*
Jacob Brown*	Charles Gundlach III	Patrick J Salem
Robert Buskey	Greg Hendricks	Gilbert Sanow II
Richard Campanella	David Jackson	Greg and Tami Schultz
Tim & Kaleb Carver* (In Memory of Lisa Carver)	Justin Jeffery	Kathleen Schultz
Greg Coghlan	Don Kaatz	Thomas E. Smart
Jerome Collins	Dave Keller	Matt Smith
Donald Day	Dr. Rick Keller	Megan Stanforth
Dale DeGirolamo	Mark Kikta	Orrin Stanforth
Elaine DeGirolamo	Kevin Klinect*	Jacob Stanforth*
Corrine, David & Steve Devich* (In Memory of Dan Devich)	Mark Koch	Rex and Judy Stanforth
Fred Downey	Ken Kohler	Paul Stefanik
Stewart Downey	Chris Konik	Richard Suhr
George Eastman	Thomas and Dana Kromer	Danny Thomas
Wesley M. Eddy	Harry Larsick	John Volchko
John T. Eddy	Alan Lepard	Greg Voyzey*
Wesley Eddy Jr.	David Madigan*	Edward Werner
Greg Eidam	Jay Martin	Richard Wirth
Mark Emery	David Mears (In Memory of James L. Mears)	Joseph Wollet
Virginia Espinoza*	John Nielsen	Jeffrey Zullo (In Memory of Richard Zullo)
Jason Ewell	The Over the Hill Gang	*New Members