MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FRIENDS OF HAW RIDGE PARK, INC.

February 7, 2012

The Board of Directors of Friends of Haw Ridge Park, Inc. (“FOHR”), met at Lincoln’s Sports Bar in Oak Ridge, TN on February 7, 2012. The meeting was called order by Steve Dittner, President, and it appearing that a quorum of the Board was present, the meeting continued for the conduct of business. A number of other members of FOHR were also present for the meeting.

The first item discussed was the new meeting location at Lincoln’s Sports Bar. Previous meetings were held at the Life Development Center adjacent to Haw Ridge Park, but that venue is not adequately heated and does not have food or beverage service available. Future meetings may be held at Lincolns or at the Life Development Center, as announced on the FOHR web site and on the Knoxville Cycling Facebook page. Although the meeting proceeded without interference, Lincoln’s does have a separate meeting/party room which may provide the best venue.

The Board discussed the progress of the Melton Hill Phase IV project by the City of Oak Ridge. The project is now largely completed and includes a paved greenway from the lake along Old Edgemore Road to the parking lot on the west side of the park. The parking lot has also been paved for the first time in the FOHR history. The paved greenway now intersects several trails on the north side of the park, and will provided a better point of access for riders entering the park from the west parking lot. A motion was made, seconded and passed to allow removal of the old entrance bridge. The old bridge is getting weak and will soon become unsafe. The bridge is too weak to be effectively reused and will probably be dismantled. Steve Dittner will ask Jon Hetrick at the City about removing and dismantling the bridge.

The Board agreed to ask the City about funding options for a mountain bike skills park. The skills park has been discussed for several years and would act as a training area for younger and newer riders to hone their skills before entering the actual mountain bike trails in the park. The proposed skill area would be adjacent to the greenway not far from the new entrance on the north side of the park. Josh Collins, Director of Parks for the City, has previously indicated the City would bulldoze some ground for FOHR in the proposed skills park area. Paul Richkus volunteered to come up with some suggested skills features.

FOHR has inquired of the City via e-mail to Jon Hetrick and Josh Collins about banning horses at the park, but no response has been received yet. Horses must now stay completely off the new paved greenway and parking lot to avoid damage. This will require horse riders to use Old Edgemore Road and areas near the Life Development Center to load and unload horse trailers. There is not sufficient space to maneuver horse trailers. Horse ridership at the park has been on the decline in recent years. Steve Dittner will attend the next Parks and Rec Board meeting with Doug Bataille, Director of Knox County Parks and Recreation, to explain the Knox County policy on horses. A report on the horse policy will be made at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed the new bog bridge constructed on Red Shore. The next trails project discussed was a partial reroute of the Briar Loop trail. The reroute area will provide a better transition area and was approved by Board vote upon a motion and a second. The Board will sponsor a trail work day on April 7&8.

Lois Martin agreed to send email about membership renewal, and remind members that the new membership fee is $20.00.

FOHR will attend Earth Day event in April at the Civic Center in OR.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Martin

Chris Martin, Board Secretary