

FFINS Meeting Minutes
Jan. 11, 2016 – 6:00pm

Attendees: Dr. Dave Hensen, Mike Trotta, Kathy Krause, Sarah Schaefer, Mohnisch Singh, Kaetlyn Jackson, Kelly Fellner, Dr. Konstantine Rountos, Marvin O'Neal

Correspondences – Longwood High School contacted FINS to be involved in Biodiversity Day on 1/15/16- Mohnisch volunteered to present and represent FFINS

Artist in Residency Program - Application due Feb. 5, 2016

- 2 week residency in spring and fall housed at Watch Hill
- Looking for an emerging and professional applicant
- Dave suggested: artist from Patchogue Cinema Arts Centre- Film showcase

Bulk email program

- Renee handles emails through Mail Chimp now

Amazon Smile program - review

Membership

- Raise awareness on FINS tours- active FFINS member (at least 1 member per event in the summer) can sign up as an official NPS volunteer and commit one day to provide presence at events and help out NPS (Reimbursement for official volunteer ferry trip)
- Need to formulate talking points for FFINS members/ volunteers to communicate FFINS message concisely to increase members and gain interest
- Kelly suggested: Centennial Celebration- FFINS volunteers can commit to 100 hrs or 2,016 hrs of volunteer time this year
- Discussed to make FFINS membership fee optional to become a member and use fee as a suggested donation to increase membership base.
- Have a FFINS presence at FINPS volunteer training events to attract members
- FINS Science Day- FFINS presence-help out and have a table to sell shirts, hats and gain members
 - Appropriate to have a raffle at Science Day to raise FFINS funds?- Kelly and Kathy will check

Saint Joseph College (SJC) day Spring 2015

- ~ \$500 raised at Christmas Boat Parade for trip

- 50 -100 students estimated interested from Biology Club and SJC FFINS student chapter
- Need lifeguards- no NPS lifeguards in early May
 1. Date- Proposed May 15th, 2016 (week between end of finals and graduation- Rain date May 21st or 22nd?)
 2. Who to invite: students, faculty, alumni, potential students
 3. Watch Hill preferred- Patchogue connection
 4. Venue – activities run by SJC professors and limited NPS staff (Dr. Rountos etc.)- seining, photography class, nature walk
 5. Food and beverage- will concessions be available? Bagged lunches?

FFINS student chapter

SBU-FFINS – 3 students interested in taking over club president role- earliest they can reinstate club is in fall semester.

SJC-FFINS - Students Mohnisch Singh and Brendon Plotke- Mohnisch looking for SJC student to take over his role next year- plans to make FFINS student chapter separate from SJC Biology Club

FFINS-SJC

- Slide show with FINS trivia question to view at ferry terminals
- Fire Island Trivia already available from NPS- already vetted by NPS
 - Any changes/ additions need to align with FINPS Interpretive Themes provided by Kathy
- Media- Un-used I pad Kiosks, un-used flat-screen at Wilderness Center?
- Dr. Rountos suggested: FI Trivia night to raise FFINS funds

Effort to encourage local (Hispanic) community to visit FI especially Watch Hill

- Lack of awareness about FI in Latino community
- Peoples United Grant ??????
- Latino Heritage Internship Program- FI NPS hiring an outreach and interpretation intern- 18 yrs or older, bi-lingual, end of high school or fresh out of high school
- FINS Spanish language flyers in the works
- Commercials for FINS on local Latino TV channels
- FINS newspaper ads in local papers
- Hire a local high school student (Patchogue-Medford) to work with FI NPS- make local connections- Advertise in Pat- Med Library and high school

VIP plan

- Docents can get training at FI NPS volunteer events
- Join in on NPS staff training in mid-June