

Friends of Whitefish Dunes State Park

January 17, 2013

Present: Ray S. Carl S, Dale and Mary G., Don M., Lynn Z., Amy P., Max M., Tony K., Dennis M., Carolyn R., Adele D.

Meeting called to order by acting president, Ray. The minutes of the previous meeting (Dec. 5, 2012) were approved (Max/Amy).

The treasurer's report noted 3 nice donations totaling \$2500 for which thank you notes have been written. December sales totaled \$174.59.

Park reports: Don says he will now keep track of donations to Friends and report this number to his office. His request for an acting manager has been vetoed, but the Dunes park has been moved to the top of the list. He estimated at least 4 additional months would be needed before any action could be taken with respect to a new manager. Also denied was a request for a campsite in the park where the park host might live during the summer season. He will explore whether these persons could be housed in one of the employee houses. If approved, the host would be located in the Nature Center and could sell merchandise and park stickers. The host position is normally filled by a retired couple. He also announced that the park naturalist intern position could only happen if the Friends could fund this person as a Limited Term Employee. The DNR is experiencing a 3% across the board cut for 2013.

Carolyn made a request that the Friends sponsor 1/3 of the cost of an on-cell contract for a year of service, with the Friends' share being \$836. The remainder of the cost was to come from a grant being prepared to Cellcom and another to the Raibrook foundation. It was voted for the Friends to pay 1/3 of the cost of an oncell contract, contingent on the other two grants being approved (Max/didn't get the name of the second).

A continued discussion of the selection of a president resulted in several ideas. A nominating committee of Dennis, Carl, Lynn, and Dale will convene and make a report at the February meeting. Ray has agreed to serve as president for another month.

There followed a discussion about the candlelight ski/walk scheduled for Jan. 26. Dennis and Max will coordinate the event, merchandise and cookies will be for sale in the Nature Center.

The February meeting will be held on the 14th at 4:30. These items are already on the agenda: 1. Exemption from #168 (Carl) 2. Election of officers (the nominating committee) and 3. Sale of merchandise (Amy and others)

Any other topics for the agenda should be forwarded to Adele or Ray by the 11th so that an agenda can be distributed.