

Friends of Whitefish Dunes State Park

Meeting: November 21, 2013

Present: Lynn, Pat, Carl, Brian, Mary, Judy, Dave Detert (a visitor), Max, Dale, Rich, John Swanson (visitor), Don, Carolyn (briefly), Adele

Lynn called the meeting to order shortly after 4:30pm.

The agenda was approved (Pat/Rich)

The minutes of the October meeting were approved (Dale/Max)

Lynn made an abbreviated form of a treasurer's report. The balance in the various accounts is \$32,226.94, of which about \$9,000 is in designated accounts.

Don and Carolyn made park reports. Carolyn reported that the Australasia exhibit has been scheduled for Sunday June 8 at 1pm. At this time the maritime exhibit will be unveiled. It will be open house statewide, thus no park stickers will be required that day. She is suggesting Sam Temple as a speaker for a Friend's event, possibly during June or July 2014; this will be coordinated with the Ridges where he also will be a speaker. January 1, 2014 there will be a first day hike starting at 2pm. The candlelight ski has been scheduled for Saturday January 25 from 5 to 8 pm.

Don reported that Tony has been transferred to Madison. He doesn't know when the ranger position will be filled. With this position vacant, snow plowing may be a problem this winter. Don will organize training for some staff to handle this responsibility. Interviews for the manager position are to be held during early December and these will be followed shortly by a decision/offer. He guessed that the new person could begin during January 2014. The 9-day gun deer season starts next Saturday. Due to the beech bark disease all impacted trees within 75 feet of a trail will be removed due to the hazard they present. A logging company will be doing this with the income from the wood going to the state. Don also

reported that the shipwreck project will be done by the end of December. The sign should be available during January.

Old Business: Rich reported that the new groomer (Yellowstone Ginzu machine) has arrived and he is getting the snowmobile ready. He introduced John Swanson who will assist him (along with Dick Weidman) with grooming. John has had experience in grooming ski trails at Pot Park. There will be a possible "show and tell" of the new machine at the December meeting.

Judy said she will organize a log for volunteers and keep track of hours.

Brian reported that he is having a few problems getting the website running properly. He needs to make contact with a person who might do this gratis for us.

Mary continues to work on organizing our membership list.

There have been several orders of memorial benches. Brian and Max will coordinate getting these assembled and carved.

Chuck Birringer was approved as a new board member.

Lynn reported that a send-off event was held for Tony the previous Friday at Mike's Port Pub in Jacksonport, with about 15 Friends in attendance to wish him well in the new assignment.

The next event will be a holiday party to be held in the shelter on Thursday December 12 at noon. We should bring a dish to pass/share. The party will follow the meeting which starts at 10:30am. Spouses are encouraged to attend as are any other interested parties.