

Whitefish Dunes Friends Meeting, March 19, 2015

Meeting called to order at 4:45pm

Present: Dale and Mary Goodner, John Rock, Max Martin, Carl Scholz, Chuck Birringer, John Swanson, Adele Douglass, Lynn Zawojski, Fred Viste

The agenda was approved. (John S/Dale).

February minutes were approved (Dale/Max)

The treasurer's report was approved. (Max/John R.). There was a question about what to do with the donations from the candlelight ski event (\$244.38). It was voted to put the money into the ski equipment replacement fund. (Max/Dale)

Park Report: (1) Park attendance during February was about 400 over the previous year, park stickers were also higher, as was the amount of merchandise sold. (2) Fred has requested money from the state for structural repair of the second beach access area. (3) He has also requested DNR funds to repaint the Nature Center as well as funds to reroute the grid system which needs to be leveled out closer to the high water mark. (4) The water system to the staff house will be reactivated by mid-April for seasonal rangers. (5) April 25 has been selected as the Spring Dunes Day from 9am to 3pm. Fred will be working on a list of tasks. Lunch will be provided. (6) A spring naturalist training program will be held at Kohler Andre Park this spring. (7) Fred does not see a problem with creating a few new deer exclosures. Ideally these will be located west of the road in the cut-over area. Max reminded us that Dick Baudhuin has offered to pay for any supplies needed for the project.

Old Business: (1) Deer exclosure: Friends volunteers will provide manpower to put in, Dick Baudhuin to pay for any needed materials. (2) Dick Weidman has submitted an application to the Raibrook Foundation for assistance in purchasing a new tractor for the park. The application results will be available in a few months. (3) Merchandise report. John S. showed us the new shelving materials which will be installed in the near future. Books are well stocked at present, based on recommendations from Carolyn. Sandra Dirks will assist in preparing an inventory of the clothing. Medallions, pins, and patches ready to order if a few changes in design can be implemented. Mary, Dale, and Carl will create the explanatory paragraph that will be distributed with each item at time of purchase.

New Business: (1) Brochure reprinting: Lynn and Mary will work on this. (2) Shelter recommendations: A new plaque is needed for the shelter, with different wording. A page with suggestions for starting, maintaining, and quenching a fire needs to be posted by the fireplace in the shelter. A structure for keeping firewood dry in winter was suggested in order to avoid smoky fires. Approval from the DNR is needed for this project which will be located near the garage. Signage will also be needed to explain where firewood is located. There was some discussion about the chimney as to whether or not it has ever been cleaned. Fred will see about getting this done. There was a brief discussion as to whether or not an expanded shelter is needed, generally it was agreed that this will not be a priority for the short-term future. More people can be accommodated if tables are rearranged, or some of the furniture is taken outside. (3) Cash register: John S. and Chuck will explore if one is available to meet our needs that does not require internet connection and report to the next meeting. (4) There will be a meeting of the State Park Friends' Groups on April 25 at Kohler Andre State Park. John R. has volunteered to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 (Max/Dale)

Next meeting will be April 16 at 4:30 in the Nature Center. Send items for the agenda to Adele or Lynn.

Prepared: Adele Douglass 4/10/15