

Whitefish Dunes Friends Meeting 11/20/14

Present: Max Martin, Mary and Dale Goodner, Don Gustafson, John Rock, Carl Scholz, Brian Penchoff, Fred Viste, Rich Dirks, Chuck Birringer, John Swanson, Adele Douglass. Visitors: Susan Cubar, Joy Gustafson. In the absence of President Lynn Zawojski, Vice President Dale Goodner chaired the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35pm

The agenda was approved (Max/Mary).

There was one addition to the minutes to reflect the decision to have Mary – using the blind copy (bcc) method – to forward information about the Climate Change Coalition to board members and other interested members of the park Friends, giving them the option to opt out of receiving such information. This addition was approved (Rich/Max). The revised minutes were approved (Max/Brian).

The treasurer's report was approved (Max/John R). The report shows income during October of \$1,870.06 and expenses of \$246.72. The checking account balance is \$26,340.26 of which \$7,047.17 is in the reserved account.

Two bills were presented at the meeting and were approved for payment. The first is to John R. for varnish to treat 30 pairs of snowshoes (\$143.65) . (John S./Max). The second was for \$350.00 for taxidermy work on a red-eyed vireo. (John R. /Max). There will be a few more taxidermy bills for animals for which a commitment has already been made by previous board action.

Park Report: (1) Fred reported that park attendance was down somewhat from a year earlier for the month of October, but slightly above that of 2012. (2) Gun deer season to start on Saturday Nov. 22, and last nine days. There were a handful of small game hunters in the park for that season which started November 15. Orange vests are available for hikers if they wish. Also signage will be installed ("Deer hunt in progress") during this period. The gun season will be followed by muzzle loading weapons and the late bow season through Jan. 4, 2015. (3) Boundary corners of the park have been identified with up to date

signage using GPS to achieve maximum accuracy. (4) In the shop area, clean up continues so grooming equipment can be gotten in and out of the shop more easily. Fred plans to have a meeting with the groomers to determine proper protocol. (5) A few more trees have been cut (6) exterior lights have been fitted with light sensors. (7) Three new furnaces are coming; an air conditioning unit will be replaced. (8) Permits are being issued for firewood collection. The price is \$13.72 per cord. The wood can only be collected in specific zones. Down wood must be collected between 8 am and 4pm Monday through Friday. The goal is to reduce slash and improve esthetics. (9) The fall work day was successful. 12 volunteers and 7 staff participated. The beach grid was stored for the winter, shelter cleaned, office cleaned, and trail maintenance continued.

There will be a holiday social gathering on December 11, 2014 in the Nature Center. The board meeting will commence at 10 am and be followed by a luncheon to which guests and spouses are invited, as well as members.

New Business: (1) The Candlelight ski event will be 1/31/15. Chuck will chair a planning group, assisted by Max. (2) Chuck is suggesting we purchase insurance for books and clothing that the Friends have for sale. It was approved (Max/Brian) that insurance be acquired at a cost of \$252 per year for \$8,000 worth of merchandise. (3) New cash register. Chuck will get specs for a machine and make recommendations at a future meeting. (4) Better display of Friends merchandise: Several ideas were tossed around. This will be an agenda item at a future meeting. There is a need to display books and clothing in an improved and more attractive manner.

Open session: Rich announced that the snow mobile was sent for servicing. The cost will not be known until the machine is picked up.

Next meeting is December 11 at 10:00am to be followed by luncheon/holiday party.

Adjourn at 5:30pm

