

## Whitefish Dines State Park Friends

May 15, 2014

Meeting called to order at 4:35pm.

Present: Max Martin, Rich Dirks, Pat and Judy Fitzgerald, Carl Scholz, John Rock (visitor), Lynn Zawojski, Mary and Dale Goodner, Chuck Birringer, Adele Douglass

Agenda was approved (Dale/Carl)

Minutes were approved with corrections (Max/Dale)

Treasurer's report approved (Max/Mary). Chuck reported not much activity. The balance at the end of April was \$27,570.70, with about \$11,000 held in reserve accounts, mostly for completion of the shipwreck exhibit.

The treasurer proposes to create a budget and passed out a sheet showing various categories of expenses and income. Rich inquired how segregated account for snow mobile replacement was being handled. There remains some confusion about this. In the near future, Rich will get to Chuck the minutes of the meeting where the segregated account was created. The June treasurer's account will provide clarification on this topic.

Park Report: Fred has just returned from Law Enforcement Training. His report contained the following: (1) Beach Bark Harvest is completed, work done by Algoma Lumber. Some public complaints have been received, mostly from folks in the local area. Trails have been reopened. Safety was the primary reason for the culling of impacted and dead trees. While the downed wood is unsightly, this debris can provide habitat for wildlife and perhaps permits will be issued to collect firewood in the fall. The county will re-seed grass along the right of way. (2) Schauer Road will be widened as part of a separate county project. (3) Dunes Day work was impressive with much being accomplished. Wood chips still to be spread along some areas of the trail system in order to create more space in the parking lot. Dale urged that some chips be spread in areas where roots are exposed near the shelter (although this is not actually a trail, many folks walk in the area along the beach, presenting a hazard to the dwarf iris area) Lynn suggested that perhaps her company could provide a truck to move the chips to a different site, from which they could be dispersed at the fall Dunes Day. (4) About 40 people attended the Shipwreck Event on May 10. Thanks to Chuck and Brian who did much work to have the site ready in time for the event. (5) Fred is gearing up for the summer. A full time ranger will be on staff, to be shared with Pot Park. (6) The kayak tour and paddle boat concession is getting ready for the summer.

Old Business: (1) Chuck recommends all merchandise prices be rounded to nearest quarter which may mean remarking books. This will make it much easier for the treasurer and also make reconciling the cash register easier. It was suggested to produce a book mark to explain the pricing (which includes tax). (2) The annual meeting will be held on July 19 in a potluck picnic format, to start at 4:30. A post card will be used to invite members, also email when addresses are known. At the meeting officers will be elected for the coming year and bi-law change can be explained and approved. There was a suggestion to include a guest speaker, Stan Templeton, who can speak on the topic of the passing of the last passenger pigeon, 100 years ago this year. Mary and Lynn will contact the speaker. (3) The Stuarts are moving to St. Louis so there is a need to replace them as book selectors. They have been hesitant to order a large number of books if the Nature Center will not be opened for many hours. It was approved to make an initial order of up to \$5,000. Brian may be interested in assuming the responsibility of Friend's book sales, he will talk to the Stuarts.

New Business (1) Rich gave an end-of-season report on the recent grooming season. The park had a record season in which grooming occurred 31 times between 17 December and 29 March. 350 miles were recorded on the snowmobile; the new groomer worked excellently. He expressed his view that the machinery should be added to the insurance the Friend's carry. Chuck agreed to explore this matter. The Fitzgeralds expressed thanks for the great work done by Rich and the team of groomers. (2) Proposed bi-law changes were discussed. Lynn will send a copy to board members for consideration and a vote at the next meeting. (3) It was voted (Lynn/Chuck) to spend up to \$150.00 for postage to inform membership about the annual meeting.

The time of adjournment was not recorded.

Submitted: Adele Douglass

