

Friends of Whitefish State Park

Minutes, June 20, 2019

Present: Susan Cubar, Erin Brown-Sender, Erin Dembski, John Swanson, Jim Perry, Mary and Dale Goodner, Carl Scholz, Lynn Zawojski, Adele Douglass

Agenda was approved (Sue/Mary).

There were no minutes from May due to a lack of quorum.

Treasurer's report: May expenditures were \$1,403.50; income was \$5135.04 with the largest coming from membership renewals (\$1034) and a grant from the FWISP naturalist incentive (\$1000). The total balance is \$81,512.24 which includes \$30,098.35 set aside for the brachiopod trail replacement and several other restricted funds. \$22,052 will also be available for the brachiopod project from the WSPS Partnership Enhancement Project. The Treasurer's report was approved (Mary/Carl).

The park report was presented by Erin (BS). The design concept for the brachiopod project has been completed with an estimated cost of \$65,000. After all the numbers are analyzed, it seems that \$2,052 more is needed from the Friends group. It was voted to move that amount from the current year (18-19) contingency budget to meet this need (Susan/Dale). Final approval at the state level is needed to move forward, followed by the bidding process. Erin felt it was realistic to plan that work can begin in the spring of 2020. Erin also reported that park management is moving forward with a potential to fill the vacant position at Whitefish before the end of 2019. There has been no progress on the trail to connect Cave Point Park and the Dunes Park. She felt the lack of a beach may be depressing attendance in addition to cooler weather. A few kayak trips have gone out. There continues to be issues with off-leash dogs in the park. There was an altercation in December between a dog and jogger and another recently. The dog owner has been given a verbal warning, with a citation indicated if there are further infractions. Due to high water, there is increased danger from rip-tides; Erin will explore whether additional safety signage is needed.

Susan has prepared a detailed budget for fiscal year 2019-2020, which starts in July. Board members went over her calculations line by line, with a few changes suggested. The biggest change was the hope that funds can be found to fund a full time naturalist in 2020 instead of 50% as has been the case the past few years. This means that the budget has been stretched to show \$5000 more in income (donations?) and the same in expenditures. The final budget will be voted on at the July meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm. Next meeting is July 18, 2019.