Friends of Whitefish Dunes, Inc.
3275 Clark Lake Rd., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

Minutes of Friends Board Meeting 6-25-25

Present: John Swanson, Dick Weidman, Julia Stoneman, Lana Pray, Susan Cubar, Liz Story, Rich Dirks, Don Gustafson, Max Martin, Sarah Gehrke, and Erin Brown Stender

Absent: Lynn Zawojski, Joe Polacheck, Adele Douglass, Doug Otopalik

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:03.

Agenda: John added two items to the Agenda. Motion to approve the Agenda with additions: Dick; second, Susan. All in favor.

Minutes: Motion to approve the Minutes of 5-28-25: Susan; second, Dick. All in favor.

Monthly Financial Report May 2025 (Lana):
Income: $3,104.87
- Sales still somewhat flat, but picking up
- Donations
Expenses: $1,352.67
- Insurance
- Office expenses
- Cave Point Trail Project Expense
- Event supples
Motion to approve May Financial Report: Don; second, Max. All in favor.

Park Report (Sarah):
NOTE: Because the car counter failed during the month, some of the visitation count is missing. A new car counter has been installed and accurate counts have resumed.
- May attendance was 11,330, which is 5,743 less than 2024, and 1,437 more than average.
Staff Changes:
- John Bagnall may need to reduce his hours, and Sarah may need to start her maternity leave sooner than expected. Because of this, a decision was made to post for a full-time VSA position. The hope is that this new hire could fill the gap during Sarah's maternity leave.
Park Manager Projects:
- Native Village/Indoor Museum Renovations: Sarah has a phone call scheduled with the Potawatomi to try and get a date scheduled with them. The Ho Chunk have been working to get a group together to help install and maintain the outdoor buildings. Sarah will schedule a work date in late July or early August for building construction.
- First Beach Access: There will be a photo-op with DNR administrators on July 2 at 11:00 to celebrate the reopening of the access.
Knowles-Nelson Projects:
- Old Baldy Renovations: We are still on schedule with Peil to begin work in fall.
- Cave Point Trail:
    - No update on approved trail counter.
    - Staff getting ready to install rope fencing around blowhole.
    - Sarah will order some safety signs to be installed along trail.
    - The Friends are working on getting interpretive signage designed. Still looking for vendor.

Beach Warning Sign Pilot Program:
- Signs should be ready before 4th of July. Waiting on decision of how the internet connection will be set up.

Membership/Clothing (Susan):
- Renewals sent out to members 5/27. We have received a few renewals, and Susan will send out reminders.
- Clothing sales have picked up and are doing well.
- Susan has ordered more crew neck and zip hoodies. She will order an extra 50 125th Anniversary t-shirts.

Social Media (Julia):
- Not much new to report. Facebook is being kept up to date, and Julia hopes to make more headway with the website.

Pollinator Garden (Don):
- This is Don's last meeting before his move. We wish him well!

Events:
- Dedication for First Beach access July 2 at 11:00.
- Boys and Girls Club visits July 28 and 29. Volunteers needed.
- August 9: tentative Moonlight Hike. 4 volunteers needed.
- Bumblebee informational class 7/22-7/23. Training at Green Bay Botanical Gardens.
- Summer Candlelight: August 23.

New Business:
- Discussed a potential future project being the purchase of roll out beach mats. These would replace our current mats, which are not only showing wear and tear, but are labor intensive for installation and removal.

Budget:
- Lana presented the proposed budget for 2025-26. She made a few minor changes from the 2024-25 budget.
Motion to approve the 2025-26 budget as presented: Dick; second, Susan. All in favor.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Don; second, Dick.
The meeting was adjourned at 5:08.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, July 23 at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Story
Secretary