

Friends of Whitefish Dunes State Park
Minutes 21 June 2018

Present: John Swanson, Susan Cubar, Erin-Brown Sender, Steve Umentum, Rich Dirks, Carl Scholz, Jim Perry, Don Gustafson, Nick Hefter, Adele Douglass

In the absence of the president, the meeting was called to order by the V.P. John.

The summer intern, Steve Umentum, was introduced. He explained a bit of his background as well as plans for the summer. He will be working 50/50 with Pot Park.

The agenda was approved (Rich/Jim). As were the minutes from May (Rich/Jim).

Park Report: Acting Park Manager, Nick, reported a significant increase in attendance and sticker sales for May. Beach access up to the first access point has been closed due to high water. The dog waste containers have been installed and are being used. The park could possibly use another one along the black trail. The park is still waiting for the new electronic kiosk. There will be a timber harvest from the red pine plantation before winter. The bidding deadline for the timber is July 12. During the harvest this area of the park will be closed. No harvesting will occur over the weekends. On 5 August there will be a Shakespeare in the Park performance at 1pm. 18 August is the Candlelight Light Walk which will need to be rerouted due to high water. Nick explained that he is at the park 2 or 3 days per week, remaining days at Peninsula Park.

Old Business: A second renewal notice will be sent to members who did not respond to the first one. Sue explained that she has made a report to the Thomas A. Brown Foundation regarding funds sent to support the summer intern. She is waiting to hear from the Enhanced Grant from the DNR. If the grant is approved it will be used to help pay for improved signage. A grant to provide \$100 for pollinator plants was received. Don will supervise the planting (located near the flag pole) in the near future. The garden will be about 10 by 10 feet and will contain a variety of plants which will bloom from early spring to fall. In the future, interpretative signage will be considered. The vote to match the grant of \$100 was approved (Susan/Don).

New Business: Elections will occur at the annual meeting on 22 September at 9:30 am.

Budget: Susan presented a proposed budget for the year starting July 1, 2018. Various numbers were looked at and adjusted as needed. She will have some final figures for the July meeting.

Adele will contact Joel Kitchens about a hike, with interpretation, to the Brachiopod Trail. This had to be cancelled in April due to the big snow.

Adjourned at 6:30. Next meeting July 19.