

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

Minutes of Friends Board Meeting 10-19-22

Present: John Swanson, Dick Weidman, Julia Stoneman, Susan Cubar, Liz Story, Rich Dirks, Adele Douglass, Jim Perry, Don Gustafson, Max Martin, Sarah Stepanik, and Erin Brown Stender

Absent: Doug Otopalik, Lynn Zawojski

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

Agenda: Motion to approve the Agenda with additions: Susan; second, Max. All in favor.

Minutes: Motion to approve the Minutes: Don; second, Susan. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report (Julia):

Julia presented both the monthly and Quarter 1 reports.

Income: \$4,628.62

Expenses: \$8,853.73

Sales still doing well. We received another donation for the Brachiopod Trail.

Motion to approve the September Treasurer's Report: Susan; second, Max. All in favor.

Quarter 1 Report: We are slightly over budget on clothing and book orders.

Motion to approve extra clothing expenses over Quarter 1 budget: Julia; second, Adele. All in favor.

Motion to approve book expenses over the Quarter 1 budget: Julia; second, Dick. All in favor.

Park Report (Sarah):

- September saw 24,500 visitors, which is 5,814 less than last year, and 1,180 more than average.

- Nature Center hours are now Friday-Monday 10-3; Tuesday-Thursday closed.

- Contact station is closed.

Park Manager Projects:

- Working on final text for the interpretive panels for Invasive Species Tank.

- Continuing to widen and add chips to ski trails before winter.

- John Craig and Joel Hadfield have finished trimming the Red Trail, and will move to the NW section of the Yellow Trail.

- Working on clearing trails after windstorm.

- Cave Point Trail: The Town and County are looking at different options for the Schauer Road project. There is no official plan yet, but it could lead to us having a direct trail to Cave Point. If this is the case, it would be an inland path, and we would need to address the fact that visitors will want to walk near the shoreline.

- ADA Parking Lot: We will go with the Lily Bay proposal, and hope this can happen this winter or early spring.

- Brachiopod reroute: If rerouting of Schauer Road occurs, the Brachiopod Trail would be impacted. We will need to discuss this with Wendy Wagner as this could mean a change to the signage.

- Naturalist: The Park has the option of recruiting for the Naturalist position through the State of Wisconsin Student Diversity and Internship program. We would still fund the position, but perhaps have a larger pool of candidates. This would be a full-time position from approximately May 22 - August 11, rather than a split or part-time position. Motion to approve \$10,000 to fund a full-time summer internship for 2023: Max; second, Don. All in favor.

Knowles-Nelson Projects:

- Ongoing Old Baldy Project: Stantec sent over a revised proposal, and project will likely go over budget. We will resubmit the Knowles-Nelson application to make it a multi-phase project, which would allow us to apply for a

second phase of funding to cover construction costs. Costs are unknown until engineering drawings completed. Contractor not comfortable proceeding without engineering plans.

- Picnic Shelter: Sliding doors would be replaced with picture windows, and electrical upgrades would be made. We have received a proposal from Laaksonen Builders for the windows, and from Stauber Electric for electrical upgrades.

Trail Report (Rich):

Rich, Sarah, and John Bagnall toured the trails to see where trimming and wood chips were needed. Most of the trimming has been taken care of by John Craig and Joel Hadfield. Will move wood chips where needed on Fall Work Day.

Membership (Susan):

- October eNews sent.

- Have received some gifts "in honor of" and "in memory of". Susan has sent out acknowledgements and posted names on board in Nature Center.

Events:

- Fall Work Day: October 29, 9:00-12:00 with lunch provided.

- Annual Meeting/Holiday Potluck: December 9.

- First Day Hike: January 1, 2023.

Project List (Active 2022):

- Interpretive Signage Meeting with Wendy coming up. Will discuss potential changes.

- ADA Parking Lot: Price has gone up, but we will cover extra cost.

- EV Charging Station: Rich, Sarah, Erin, and John met and decided to submit a proposal to DNR outlining what we would like to do as far as charging stations at the Park. Rich will put the proposal together.

- Taxidermy: Rich will drop mounts off with Mike Orthober November 21.

- Picnic Shelter: Received bid on windows, but need to make a decision to lock in prices. We have bids for putting in two windows, or for one door and one window. Motion to replace sliding doors in Picnic Shelter with two windows: Max; second, Susan. All in favor.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Don; second, Rich. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24.

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 16 at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Story

Secretary