

Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes

Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 14, 2009

Platte River Campground

Board Members Present: Christine Ambrecht, Eleanor Cumings, Roland Drayson, Dick Kishline, Kerry Kelly, Leonard Marszalek, Molly McCombs, Pat Oriel, Jerry Powley, Chuck Schaeffer, Alice VanZoeren

NPS Representative: Supt. Dusty Schultz

Changes to Agenda: None

Minutes of April 15 meeting 2009: Approved upon correction of spelling of Board Member Dick Kishline's name.

Treasurer's Report: Molly McCombs

* As of June 14 2009, total assets \$30,370.70; restricted funds \$16,430.28; balance for projects/operations \$4,690.42.

* Need to fund BETA bus for Port Oneida Fair at a cost of \$2000.00: Board Approved

*Received a gift of \$200.00 from Empire Eagles to be used as POF seed money

* Cherry Republic will donate balance of \$5000.00 gift for beach stairs to be used for future projects of a similiar nature.

*Encumbered funds: \$2,650.00 bioblanket, sand fence, and plover sign; \$2,400.00 bird booklets; \$700.00 D.H.Day exhibit; \$3,000.00 D.H.Day sawmill; \$500.00 Adopt-A-Beach shirts and hats.

Treasurer's report approved

Report from Supt. Dusty Schultz

*"Thank you" for partnering with the Park

* General Management Plan approved January 6, 2009

* Wilderness Proposal Legislative Package in Washington for approval

* Re-lighting of the South Manitou lighthouse

* New staff: Susan Sanders, Volunteer-in-Park Coordinator; Jerry Vanderziel, Secretary to Supt. Dusty Schultz; Jennifer Werts, replacing Park Ranger Bill Herd

* Current projects include: RV dump stations at Platte River Campground; S,Manitou historic buildings restoration/stabilization; N. Manitou stabilizing barn and life saving station

* Stimulus Package money of approx. \$2.4 million will be used for projects such as rehabilitating trails, removing invasive plants, solar panels on S. Manitou and Glen Haven Community, and underground electrical systems.

* Other areas of concern: Glen Haven visitation area walkways; restoration of Werner house which will serve as the Volunteer Office; Glen Haven Inn restoration (historic lease possibilities); trailways

Committee Reports

Nominating:

New Board Members: Roland Drayson, serving a second term; Leonard Marszalek; Alice Van Zoeren. New members voted on welcomed by Kerry.

Other Committee Reports

- * Membership dues were discussed. A student membership will be available for \$10.00. Board encouraged to promote corporate memberships at \$100.00 annually
- * Chuck will explore using Paypal for on-line membership payments and contributions
- * Chuck and Roland will review membership categories
- * Molly reported that 34 volunteers have contributed approx. 144 hours since January
- * Chuck will explore using the web site for recording Adopt-a Trail and Adopt-a-Beach volunteer hours
- * Adopt-a-Garden: Molly reported that Sharon Oriel has been volunteering at the Lahr Farm. There is a sign-up sheet in the shed. Garden has been tilled with flowers and vegetables planted
- * Adopt-a-Beach: Kerry reported that we are partnering with Alliance for the Great Lakes
- * Booklets and Stickers: Kerry expressed gratitude to Alice VanZoeren for her work on the birding booklet, its popularity demonstrated by vigorous sales. Hopefully booklets and stickers will be self-sustaining by year's end
- * Bike Trail: Kerry reported that the Environmental Assessment is complete using a \$300,000.00 grant from DOT. A 4 mile stretch from Glen Arbor to the Dune Climb has been staked and is open for walkers. Plan is to obtain \$1 million (\$800,000.00 from State of Michigan with remainder from matching funds). Design and engineering should be complete by year's end
- * Field Clearing: Kerry announced that mowing will begin August 1 with the assistance of Steve Yancho. Field clinics will be held each Tuesday throughout the summer at the Dechow Farm for those interested in mowing and tree pulling

Old Business

- * Kerry reported that the D.H.Day exhibit at the General Store is coming together and will be open this summer thanks to the hard work of Lois Veenstra, Dick Kishline, Susan Sanders and others
- * Christine reported the availability of "Friends" hats and shirts
- * Kerry announced the completion of stairs at the Lane Road beach access in Port Oneida. Thank you to Cherry Republic for providing funding and to the volunteers who did the difficult work

New Business

- * A planer for the D.H.Day Sawmill was purchased for \$300.00

* A motion was made and accepted to spend \$3000.00 for the D.H.Day sawmill. A fundraising event will be needed to provide a building to hold the sawmill. A site is still to be determined

* Kerry asked for a motion to approve the purchase of 80 gallons of paint to be used on S. Manitou buildings at a cost of \$1000.00. Motion passed unanimously

Other Business

* Volunteers needed for the Port Oneida Fair. Kerry will contact Board for sign-up

Following adjournment, Board met to approve officers for the coming year. Chairperson: Kerry Kelly; V. Chairperson: Pat Oriel; Treasurer: Molly McCombs; Secretary: Lois Veenstra

Respectfully submitted: Christine Ambrecht for Lois Veenstra, Secy.