

**Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes
Board Meeting
April 27, 2011 2:00 PM
Headquarters Library**

1. **Roll Call** – Lois Veenstra

Board Members Present: Christine Ambrecht, Fritz Barratt, Eleanor Comings, Roland Drayson (via phone), Kerry Kelly, Roland Drayson, Richard Kishline, Leonard Marszalek, Pat Oriel, Alice Van Zoeren, Lois Veenstra

Friends Committee Chairman Present: Alan Kasper

NPS Representative Present: Tom Ulrich

2. **Changes to Agenda** – Kerry Kelly

a. Add Adopt-A-Highway

3. **Approve Minutes of Last Meeting:** Kerry Kelly

a. **Minutes from the October 13, 2010, meeting:** Approved

b. **Resolutions from e-mail votes:**

i. **Approval to submit application for NEEF Capacity-Building Grant**

These awards have not been announced. There were 350 applications for 20 grants. We expect to hear soon.

ii. **Approval to submit application for Rotary Charities Capacity-Building Grant**

This grant has been received.

iii. **Approval of accepting the \$5,000 grant from Rotary Charities**

iv. **Approval of \$1,575 expense to revise the Friends web site**

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Leonard Marszalek

Molly McCombs has resigned as treasurer. Leonard Marszalek will fill in until the election in June.

Motion was made to send life membership, thank-you card, and flowers/plant to thank Molly for all of the work that she has done for the Friends. Christine Ambrecht volunteered to do this. Approved

Leonard provided a detailed financial statement showing assets of \$48,942.62, with restricted funds of \$22,124.16, operations and projects funds of \$17,029.94, and reserves of \$9,788.52. Treasurer's report approved.

5. **Report from Park Representative – Tom Ulrich, Deputy Superintendent**

An update was given on the many projects being worked on throughout the Lakeshore.

The new law enforcement chief will be Phil Akers.

a. **Report of Park status for 2011 and any changes since last meeting**

Updates were given on the Port Oneida plan.

The Heritage Trail will be discussed with item 6i.

b. **Discuss any new Park Programs or development plans that we should be aware of**

Glen Haven – possibility of opening Sleeping Bear Inn with expression of interest by the end of the year.

c. **New Volunteer Office in Glen Haven**

This office is not open yet as there are no bathroom facilities at this time.

6. **Committee Reports**

a. **Finance Committee – Kerry Kelly & Leonard Marszalek**

i. **Create a Finance Committee** – To handle audits, budgets, taxes, and financial reports. Discussion was held with further discussion to be held after the June election. The question was asked if membership should be separated from the treasurer's job.

ii. **Review and approve the 2011 Budget**

Discussion was held. Budget approved.

b. **Membership Report** – Leonard Marszalek

There are currently 33 individual memberships, 68 family memberships, 1 student membership, and 9 corporate memberships. There are 52 memberships that have not been renewed for 2011.

c. **Port Oneida Fair Committee** – Roland Drayson

The committee has been meeting. This year's fair will be a zero waste event.

d. **Field-Clearing** – Fritz Barratt

Fritz and Kerry met with Ross today.

An agreement has been made with Deerings to chip the branches.

Tom Ulrich announced that there was a burn plan.

e. **Adopt-A-Beach** – Lois Veenstra

Kerry will send an e-mail to all of the current AAB volunteers to confirm their participation for the 2011 year. There will be a meeting at 10:00 AM on May 14 to review procedures and train any new volunteers. Volunteers who are doing both AAB and botulism watch will be assigned the same beach for both activities.

f. **Adopt-A-Garden** – Kerry Kelly

No report.

g. **Adopt-A-River** – Al Kasper

There are six volunteers on the Crystal River.

The Traverse Area Paddle Club is doing the Platte River in both spring (June 25) and fall.

h. **Adopt-A-Trail** – Chuck Schaeffer

Chuck will be e-mailing the volunteers in the next few days reviewing procedures and asking for a continued commitment.

i. **Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail** – Leonard Marszalek

Leonard provided a detailed written report.

Segment One will be cleared in the fall, construction in the spring, and opening in the summer 2012.

They will have booth at the Port Oneida Fair.

j. **Booklets and Stickers** – Kerry Kelly

New inventory is needed as we are nearly out of all booklet except for Ghost Towns.

There will be a new booklet on Environmental Threats.

7. **Old Business**

a. **Beach Access Stairs in Port Oneida** – Kerry Kelly

These will be built at the end of the unnamed road one mile north of Lane Road. These may be built in July. The launch at Crystal River will be completed first.

b. **Sawmill Purchase** – Kerry Kelly

This purchase will not be made as this was not D. H. Day's sawmill.

c. **Report from Planning Committee** – Leonard Marszalek

Leonard provided a detailed written report.

The planning team recommends three areas of focus for 2011-2012:

Development of strategic framework plan

Develop communications and marketing

Develop information management / technology

With the possibility of a big board turnover in June, possibly six new members out of twelve, further planning will take place after the election.

8. **New Business**

a. **Healthy Hiker Challenge**

i. This is a Glen Lake Senior Project for Bonnie Ricord and Lena Cruz.

ii. This program would encourage people to hike all 13 mainland trails.

iii. Funding is needed for booklet/rewards – Requesting about \$200 Approved.

b. **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Priority List of Partner Requests**

The following projects were selected and individually approved:

- \$1,800 for Visitor protection equipment – Volunteer Search and Rescue
- \$2,000 for herbicide for YCC black locust removal
- \$4,000 for 4 interns (\$1,000 Student Intern Housing Costs for each one)
Invite the interns to the Friends meeting to report on what they do.
- \$1,000 for a brush cutter/attachments/PPE

\$1,000 for firewood bags for campground firewood exchange was discussed and tabled for an e-mail vote after more information is received.

c. **Nominating Committee Selection** – Kerry Kelly

The following committee was appointed: Roland – Chairman, with Pat, Christine, and Leonard.

d. **Liability Insurance** - \$200/yr.

Should we be sued, the insurance would pay legal costs. Approved

Bonding for treasurer - \$100/yr.

This would insure us for only 25% of the dollars and only if the party was found guilty. Discussion was held. Motion was made to change the by-laws to remove this clause. Motion approved.

e. **Adopt-A-Highway** – Lois Veenstra

Noting that signs were erected on M-109 that the highway was available for adoption, the MDOT was contacted. The highway had already been adopted. Discussion was held and motion made to apply for future consideration of adoption of this highway by the Friend group. Motion passed.

e. **Next meeting: June 12, 2011 at 2:00 pm at Platte River Picnic Area**