

**Friends of Point Beach State Forest (FPBSF)
General Membership Meeting Minutes
City of Two Rivers Fire Department Community Room
Tuesday, April 8, 2008**

Members and Prospective Members Present: There were approximately 25 individuals present at this meeting.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Randy Beecher.

Approval of the Minutes

Secretary Debbie Timm read the minutes from the October 9, 2007 general membership meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bob Pilzak reported on the paid single and family membership status for 2008.

Bob presented the treasurer's report noting there was a copy for review on the back table. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. The motion carried.

Park Bench Report

Dave Meyer reported that there is one bench near completion. It should be ready by April 19.

Park Report

The park report was given by Park Superintendent Guy Willman.

- Funding has been approved for a walkway from the lodge parking lot to the beach. This walkway will be approximately 130 feet long.
- A new park/forest sign is being made for Highway O.
- Guy reminded spring cleanup participants to bring rakes and gloves. Cleaning supplies will be provided by the park.
- There is a stone wall at the south end of the lodge parking lot that needs to be uncovered.

Web Site

Debbie Timm presented a report provided via E-mail from Web site coordinator, Angie Peltier.

- As of April 8, 2008 there had been 9,019 visitors to the FPBSF site.
- Minutes and newsletters are current.
- There are pictures of the candlelight ski/hike and Halloween weekend.
- The request for used cross country ski equipment is on the first page.
- The site includes information regarding the two indoor group cabins.

Newsletter

Kathy Beer presented information about the most recent newsletter. She also thanked all of the people who contributed in any way.

Halloween Weekend 2007 and 2008

Halloween 2007 was very successful; however, with more non-campers participating, parking has become an issue. There were more expenses than previous years due to additional supplies that were needed and entertainment costs.

Halloween Weekend 2008 will be expanded to Friday with an educational and/or haunted trail being created by a group of students. At this time, Saturday's events will remain the same.

Candlelight Ski/Hike

The number of participants for the 2008 Candlelight Ski/Hike was about half that of 2007. The windy and icy conditions and the football playoffs were thought to be the reason. The 2009 event will be moved to the weekend between the playoffs and the Super Bowl.

Certificate of Deposit (CD)

Bob Pilzak explained that after careful research, the FPBSF has invested \$8,000.00 into a CD at a local financial facility.

Park Newspaper

Kathy Beer will be organizing and editing an annual Point Beach State Forest newspaper that will be similar newspapers from other State parks and forests. Copies of other papers were available for viewing. It was decided to have a separate insert for coupons and ads. Bob Pilzak has been researching places and prices for layout and printing. Bob and Randy Beecher were well received at a recent Two Rivers Business Association meeting when they presented the newspaper idea and asked for financial support via ads, coupons, and donations.

Nature Center Intern

The FPBSF will be financially supporting a summer nature center intern.

Park Cleanup

The 2008 Park Cleanup will be held on April 19. Workers should gather at the shop area between 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. for coffee, donuts, and assignments. There will be chili and hot dogs at the lodge at 1:00 p.m. Participants may bring a dish to pass, but it is not required.

Breakfast in the Forest

Lee Stegemann has agreed to provide food and supplies for the 2008 Breakfast in the Forest; however, because of fluctuating prices, he could not provide price quotes at this time. Lee did state that the FPBSF would need to charge more per person than in 2007.

Fund Raising Events

A discussion was held about fundraising options. Ideas suggested were 50-50 raffles during events such as the ski/hike and Halloween, a brat fry, and doing something in conjunction with the kite flying events.

Cross County Ski Program

Because there is no local business that rents or sells cross country skis, the park will be establishing a loan program based out of the park office. The FPBSF are looking for donations of used or new cross country skis, poles, and boots.

Board Members

Randy Beecher introduced the board members who were present at this meeting.

At 7:40 p.m., a motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting. Randy announced that after a brief break, the monthly board meeting will begin. General membership attendees were invited to stay for the board meeting.

Submitted by Debbie Timm