

FRIENDS OF SCENTRAIL BARK COMMUNITY PARK

Meeting Minutes – Nov. 29, 2021

ATTENDEES: Amy Palik, Jen Gray, Tammy Siltanen, Laurie Monroe, Jamie Rokus, Donna Smrz, Linda Sanger, Marilyn Foley and Melinda McNett.

Amy Palik called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. at Port Edwards United Methodist Church. The meeting was broadcast on Facebook LIVE. Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and approved.

Tammy Siltanen gave the treasurer's report. There is currently \$12,876.93 in the checking account, \$163.13 in PayPal and Tammy had \$653.00 in checks to deposit, bringing the total to \$13,693.06.

Amy reminded those in attendance that if they were not up to date on membership dues, they would not be able to vote during the meeting. She then reviewed membership fees and reiterated that you do not need to be a paid member to participate in meetings.

OLD BUSINESS:

Amy reported that president Drew Frisk and secretary Kate Frisk resigned their positions on the board at the previous meeting. We now have their letters of resignation if anyone wants to review them.

In light of Drew and Kate's resignation, we immediately need to update our PO Box information and make our annual payment before the end of the year and update our banking information.

Jamie Rokus gave a fundraising update that included information that had been discussed at a fundraising meeting on Nov. 15. The village of Port Edwards has invited us to decorate a Christmas tree in the village, and we will participate. The lighting ceremony is at 6 p.m. Dec. 8. The tree will be there on Wednesday, and we need to coordinate a time to decorate the tree. Amy will put lights on the tree on Wednesday, and we will gather on Saturday to finish decorating.

Tammy, Amy, Jen Gray and Jamie have been discussing dog-related items to hang on the tree. We are going to use dog leashes as garland. Jen will work on finding a dog-related tree topper.

We also will be doing an ornament fundraiser to both decorate the tree and to raise funds for the park. We've sold two already, and Jamie will continue to make and hang ornaments until Dec. 24. It is a minimum \$10 donation and people can donate through PayPal or mail a check. Photos can be sent through email or Facebook.

Jamie will create a display sign to hang in front of the tree. It will feature a QR code that will take people directly to PayPal where people can donate without even having to log in.

We have collection jars at BowWow Meow, Mission Coffee-Wisconsin Rapids and Chips. Junkyard Bar has requested one, and Jen will drop one off at Quality Feed. Linda Sanger will check with Ken at The Feed Store. Jamie will also ask Happy Paws if they would allow us to display there. We have a jar/poster combo, a jar only with a slightly different design and a poster-only option for businesses to display. We are posting a "thank you" post on Facebook when we set them up.

Jen Oswald at Mission Coffee-Wisconsin Rapids is planning to do a Christmas gift box fundraiser for the park. There will be three options with different items and prices. She will have photos shortly and then we will start promoting.

Jen Gray has created a #GivingTuesday fundraiser on Facebook, and we will promote that.

Legacy Foundation application is almost complete, and then Jamie will submit it. It is a multiple step process. We'll find out in mid-December if we move on to the next round.

Amy has created letters to submit to local town/village boards, and we plan to send those to see if local municipalities would be willing to contribute to our start-up costs.

We are still trying to coordinate a Photos with Santa fundraiser with BowWow Meow for Dec. 11. A photographer has expressed interest, and we still are waiting to hear back from Dawn at BowWow Meow if Santa is available. If we do hold the event, we will hold a 50/50 raffle.

Jen also shared some vinyl window clings with our logo that she has created in a variety of colors that she plans to sell for \$6 each as a fundraiser.

NEW BUSINESS:

We discussed our board structure and whether the size of our board is appropriate for the size of our organization. Our current board includes seven officers (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, speaker and two members at-large).

Jamie made a motion to reduce the number of board members to five (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and speaker), and Jen seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Election of board members for the next two-year term will be held Jan. 31. There is no limit to the number of terms a board member can serve. We then took nominations for officers: Amy Palik, president; Jen Gray, vice president; no nominations for secretary; Tammy Siltanen for treasurer; and Jamie Rokus, speaker.

We will continue to take nominations for officers until our Jan. 31 meeting, at the time voting is held. Anyone can submit a nomination to our email at scentralbarkpark@gmail.com; individuals can also nominate themselves for board seats.

We also discussed sending membership dues notices to those who are past due, and Amy and Tammy will coordinate.

We briefly talked about creating a Grounds Committee to start discussing how to structure the park, coordinating clean-up efforts and maintenance, and creating park rules. The chair of the committee would need to be a paid member, but anyone can be a member.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 31 at Port Edwards United Methodist Church.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jamie Rokus, interim secretary