

Friend of Grand Haven State Park

Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2016



Meeting commenced: 6:35pm at the Loutit Library: Meeting Room A

President's Comments: Mike Mazurek informed the group that the FGHSP have been recognized with a Community Service Award from the Michigan Parks and Recreation Association (mPark). The award will be presented on April 20th at the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing. The group elected to cover the ticket price of \$25.00/person for 6 attendees.

February meeting minutes were approved. There was no meeting in March.

Treasurers Report: Judi Mazurek

Current cash in the bank = \$19,741.73

Deposits since February = \$10 dues and \$300 from the Michigan Humanities Council (1st installment of \$500 grant).

Expenses since February = \$362.52 sales tax

Grand Haven Area Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council: Karen McKnight Casey

FGHSP applied for the maximum amount that can be awarded by the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) which is \$7,000. Thanks to Karen for writing and submitting the proposal well in advance of the April 1, 2016 deadline. YAC will meet on April 20, 2016 to decide on their recommendation. If recommended, the request moves to the Community Foundation Board.

Playground Equipment: Mike Mazurek

Mike Mazurek is slated to meet with John McDonald, the supplier of our bike racks, to discuss potential options for playground equipment. John indicated he might be able to offer less expensive options.

Matt Shaver, acting Park Manager, suggested the group look into the "new wave" of playground equipment that the State is in favor of because they emphasize physical activity using ropes and jungle gyms. They also offer several nice handicap accessible options and customized designs. The ropes are synthetic and suitable for a sand area installation. They come with a 15 year warranty and the replacement costs are generally half that of plastic components.

Matt also led a discussion of the possible location of the playground. The original intent of the group was to expand the offering in the area currently housing swings (center loop). An alternative location would be along the channel.

Objections to the channel location included:

- 1) It would infringe upon the space of the camp sites along the channel.
- 2) It would be too close to the water for safety concerns of smaller children.
- 3) It would encourage too much traffic cutting through the campground.

Positive remarks to the channel location included:

- 1) It would be more accessible to the community/general public.
- 2) It would not be installed over water and electrical service lines, which would be the case in the center loop.
- 3) The major complaint in the park is from campers regarding general public use of facilities in the campground.

The State Park Planner (Joe S) needs to approve the location of the playground including the 2 pieces of equipment secured by FGHP last year. Joe needs to see plans from FGHP for overall footprint.

If approved, the group decided that the center loop location was more in line with the overall goal of the project, which is to re-establish a playground in the campground.

Vending Contracts: Mike Mazurek

Pepsi is offering the same contract for 2016 as last year: \$3,000 signing bonus and a 45% commission on sales. There was a lot of dissatisfaction with the level of service from Pepsi and the loss of revenue associated with that service.

Mike has had a conversation with AD Bos, who is offering to supply both snacks and beverage vending in 2016. The beverages would be a mix of both Pepsi and Coke products. They will guarantee that the machines will be replenished on an appropriate basis and kept full. They are offering a 20% commission on sales.

Mike did discuss the opportunity with the new sales representative from Coca Cola, but we do not have an offer from them yet.

The group decided to let Mike continue talks with both vendors and make a decision based on what he believes will be in the best interest of the FGHP. We asked that he try to get a commitment of Monday and Friday as replenishment/stocking service days.

Events at the Park:

Kite Festival: May 21 & 22

Memorial Day: May 27-30

Beach Survival: June 18

Soccer in the Sand: June 25 & 26

Biggby Coffee is interested in setting up beverage and snack service tents for the Kite Festival and the Soccer in the Sand tournament. Mike presented a proposed menu of items that would be offered. Although details of the commission to FGHP need to be negotiated, the group was in favor of partnering with Biggby. Last year each event generated \$325.00 in contributions to FGHP.

The FGHP will also man a table at these two events to share information about the group and sell t-shirts. Becky Newman will email a sign-up sheet with time slots to members to volunteer to work the events.

Wood: Mike Mazurek

The park will be able to accept the 8 pallets of wood on order. 2 pallets will fit in the shed and 6 pallets in the outdoor storage area. Matt requested that the group keep in mind that 6 pallets outside is the maximum unless we pour

concrete in that area. Dave offered to donate a Radio Flyer wagon for the purpose of transporting wood bundles for campers. Becky will research more industrial strength wagon options to purchase.

2016 Budget: Mike Mazurek

Mike handed out copies of the projected 2016 budget based on past history and future plans. The budget was approved with the request that the 6% sales tax amount be deducted from the revenue stream for accuracy.

New Business:

Matt Shaver commended the friends group on our ability to fund raise. He felt we were not engaged enough in activities in the park itself that would help promote our goals of improving the park experience. He suggested we host beach cleanup activities on two busy days in the park: July 5th and Coast Guard Saturday.

The group took time to recognize Joyce Rhodes in her last meeting as a park official. A big thank you to her for all her hard work on behalf of the friends group! We look forward to having Joyce as a member. Happy retirement Joyce!

Next Meeting: May 9, 2016 at 6:30pm, location TBD.

Becky Newman will send minutes to board members for approval before posting on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.