

Friends of Grand Haven State Park
Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2021



Meeting commenced: 3:30pm at Odd Sides in Grand Haven

President's Comments: Mike Mazurek

Mike and Bob Moore attended the Water Safety meeting hosted by the City of Grand Haven. Bob introduced the Friends of Grand Haven State Park's contributions to Grand Haven State Park and our water safety book initiative. He also introduced Tim Wheeler of Cartoonversations. Tim presented information on Cartoonversations and shared samples of the books he has produced. The information was well received.

September meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: submitted by Judi Mazurek

There were deposits since August of \$2,325.08 from fire pit sales, wood sales, Coke, can returns, and return of the startup funds.

There were expenses since August of \$1,347.84. This was for the purchase of 48 fire pits. We now have 55 fire pits in the camp host shed.

Current cash in the checking account = \$10,032.05. We have \$7.36 in savings.

The value of our CD's = \$25,622.65

We sold all the wood by the end of September. We have received \$3,521 year to date from Coke. We are expecting at least one more check from Coke, maybe two. AD Bos has asked to store their machines in the Pavilion for the winter. This was okayed by Andy Lundborg.

Old Business:

Update from Andy Lundborg: not present

There are no outstanding issues or requests. Grand Haven State Park closes on October 23rd for camping. The entire park will close for one week before a portion reopens for the winter.

Update from Bob Moore: Water Safety Book

Bob has had several meetings with Tim Wheeler of Cartoonversations. As noted above, Tim presented the Water Safety book to the beach communities meeting hosted by the City of Grand Haven. He explained how Cartoonversations work and who they are targeted for along with success stories of other initiatives. All participants in the meeting (in person and via zoom) were invited to partner with the Friends of Grand Haven State Park in producing the Water Safety book. The more partners, the lower our per book publishing cost will be. Books could also be produced in additional languages.

Other ideas from water safety initiatives were presented during the meeting:

Muskegon has life vests and life rings with embedded chips so that they can be tracked if "borrowed".

South Haven handed out a statement size flier they distribute that explains the flag warning system on one side and alternative activities for red flag days on the backside. They also sponsor a placemat with Beach Safety Tips on one side and beach themed kids' games on the back. South Haven also has a drone they use for safety surveillance.

Mears used student artwork to create a water safety poster that they post in restroom stalls.

Next steps for FGHP: Tim Wheeler needs to secure guidelines from the State of Michigan DNR. Bob Moore will meet with him on Wednesday, October 13th. Bob will get a list of contacts who attended the meeting from Grand Haven City Manager Pat McGinnis. Possible grant opportunities in our area include Meijer, Walmart, and the Grand Haven Community Foundation.

We would like to have children review the book before publication. We can work with Grand Haven Area Public Schools.

Andy Lundborg is on the DNR water safety committee and should be able to help us avoid bureaucratic delays.

Fire Pits Update

Dave Brinks sourced fire pits online from Menards for \$28.08/pit. We will receive an 11% rebate (\$148) that can be applied to future purchases. Dave and Sallie had to pick up the fire pits, and it took them two trips to their house to get them all! Mike and Judi helped them take the pits to GHSP and load them into the storage shed. We will have 55 fire pits going into the 2022 camping season. It was decided to keep the sell price at \$35.00.

Volunteer for a Year Update (V2Y)

V2Y has Grand Haven listed on their calendar for April 2022. They are actively recruiting volunteers locally. Mike sent them an email thanking them for coming and they responded. We need to develop a diagram of installation locations and needs for our FGHP outstanding projects for Andy and V2Y. Here is the list:

Concrete work:

- East and West side of the shower building
- Pads for sway benches (2)
- Pad for picnic tables (4 tables)
- Pad for bench by Gazebo

Installation work:

- Bike rack at playground
- Sway benches (2)
- Gazebo
- Picnic Tables (4)
- Playground bench
- Benches on east side of shower building

The Friends of Grand Haven State Park would like to host end of week parties for V2Y. Ideas include cookout at the Park (Pavilion?) and trolley to Burzurk on Grand Haven's East Side.

New Business:

2022 Project Ideas:

Action Track Chair. Mike has a contact at a Plymouth Michigan veterans' group who may wish to partner on this. We discussed submitting for matching funds from the State of Michigan Friends Group program. Currently there is a backlog of inventory waiting for parts that could affect availability. Ordering early seems prudent for delivery in spring 2022.

Age 2–5-year playground equipment. This would require a pad and could be best suited for the day use area, adjacent to the current playground.

Wi-Fi in the park Pavilion. The State's plan for Wi-Fi in state parks is unclear.

Safety Drone. There would be a training and operator component in addition to purchasing a drone.

It was decided that the FGHSP should focus on the Track Chair and the Water Safety Book for 2022. We could partner with the veteran's group and order one chair and submit a grant application with the state to acquire a second chair.

Annual Meeting

Our November 8th meeting will serve as our annual meeting. We will meet virtually. Karen will post the meeting on the Grand Haven Tribune calendar. Formal board member nominations will take place at this meeting with a vote to follow.

Elections

5 Board Member terms are set to expire on December 31st (Mike, Judi, Bob, Karen, and Sallie). All 5 will be nominated on November 8th.

Next Meeting: November 8, 2021, at 3:30pm. Location: Zoom

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.