

Friends of Grand Haven State Park

Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2023



Meeting commenced: 3:35pm at Side Bar Artisan Coffee.

Roll Call: Mike Mazurek, Judi Mazurek, Bob Moore, Becky Newman, Dave Brinks, Sallie Brinks, Karen Casey, Andy Lundborg and Judith Hooper.

Mike welcomed new group attendee Judith Hooper and thanked everyone for coming. He informed the group that our Memorandum of Understanding (partnership agreement) with the State of Michigan/DNR is finally completed!

The October meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: Judi Mazurek

Deposit since October: \$4,317.50 from wood and fire pit sales, AD Bos/Coke vending machines, can returns and a \$50 transfer from PayPal.

Expenses since October: \$60.00 for joining the Lakeshore Nonprofit Alliance.

Current cash in the checking account = \$24,701.31

We have \$5.00 in savings.

Old Business:

Lakeshore Nonprofit Alliance: Mike Mazurek

We have officially joined the LNA with our \$60 dues payment. An email from LNA was sent to Mike and he forwarded it to FGHSP members. You can sign up for delivery of their electronic newsletter.

Park Update:

Last Thursday was the last day for Grand Haven State Park staff except for Andy and Arika. Andy is still working on setting up a meeting between the FGHSP and the DNR to discuss vending rights.

Programming Update:

Water Safety – partner with the YMCA (Mike):

Mike has set up a meeting with the Y staff for tomorrow at 11:00am. Becky will attend. Andy is tentative.

Birds of Prey – Outdoor Discovery Center (Becky)

We decided on a Thursday in July 2024 and Becky will contact the Outdoor Discovery Center to schedule.

Youth Fishing Day - (Andy)

No update

Coordination with the Gillette Center at Hoffmaster

No update

Music Programs – partner with Walk the Beat (Becky)

One or two concerts will be scheduled with a maximum budget of \$500/concert.

Puppet Show – Kids entertainer and author (Judi)

Judi was not able to find any contact information on this performer. She will investigate scheduling a magician from Grand Rapids!

Partner with Loutit Library – (Karen)

Karen has not gotten any response from the Loutit Library.

Partner with the Light House Conservancy (Mike)

Mike has not gotten any response from the Light House Conservancy.

Sand Sculpture Instructional event – (Dave & Sallie)

No update

Blackstone grill cooking demonstration – (Dave)

No update

Local Girl and Cub Scout organizations re: possible interest in/links to programming (Karen)

Karen had an in depth zoom meeting with two staff members of the West Michigan Girl Scouts. They expressed a lot of interest in partnering with the FGHSP on programs like Birds of Prey and Music. The Girl Scouts can use programming events as badge earning opportunities. A benefit of this partnership for the FGHSP is that the Girl Scouts would handle publicity and registration. September 14 and 15, 2024 is Girl Scout weekend at Michigan State Parks (daily activities, not an overnight experience). This could be perfect timing for us to pool our resources with the Park and the Scouts and get on their calendar of events, which is already under construction!

Given the small size of the Friends of Grand Haven State Park, it was suggested that we limit our program offerings to:

- 1) Water Safety program in conjunction with the YMCA.
- 2) Girl Scout weekend activities (including a cookout with Blackstone).
- 3) Birds of Prey
- 4) Concert
- 5) Magic Show

Projects:

Although we do not have concrete numbers regarding the cost of mobi mats and drinking fountains, we will need to submit paperwork for matching funds from the State of Michigan DNR by January 19th, 2024. Therefore, it was motioned, seconded, and approved to submit a proposal to acquire enough 6 1/2-foot wide mobi mats and 2 bottle filling drinking fountains not to exceed \$20,000 in FGHSP funds.

Elections:

Board member nominees Dave Brinks and Becky Newman were reelected for a three-year term starting January 1, 2024.

New Business:

Bob Moore met with the person from South Haven who had reached out to us regarding our water safety books. He will share the contact information with Mike Mazurek.

Bob asked if anyone would like to replace him as a FGHSP representative at the monthly City of Grand Haven/State of Michigan DNR meetings (zoom). Mike Mazurek volunteered, and Becky Newman indicated she could help.

Becky Newman had a zoom meeting with representatives from Senator Gary Peters' office regarding Action Track Chairs. The meeting covered acquisition, maintenance, storage, charging, usage, and registration procedures. The Senator is looking at programs to bring more mobility chairs to State Parks.

Andy Lundborg told the group that Grand Haven State Park is receiving an award for their water safety efforts, including the water safety books procured by the Friends of Grand Haven State Park!

Mike Mazurek gave a brief financial recap of 2023:

- 1) Wood sales: \$5774 from 840 bundles (1123 bundles in 2022 and 1200 bundles in 2021).
- 2) Fire Pit sales: \$1030 from 38 fire pits (43 fire pits in 2022, 51 fire pits in 2021).
- 3) Coke Vending sales: \$5,667 (\$5847 in 2022).
- 4) T-shirt sales: 17 sold (zero in 2022 and 3 in 2021). We still have 41 shirts.
- 5) AD Bos sales: \$1038 (\$1184 in 2022).
- 6) Can returns: \$693 (\$698 in 2022).

Mike ended the meeting with a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their hard work. He suggested we gather on December 6th for dinner to celebrate our 10-year anniversary as the FGHSP and to thank and send off long time members Bob Moore and Karen Casey. They will be missed!

Next Meeting: January 8, 2024 at 3:30pm. Location: Zoom

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:012pm.