

Friends of Potato Creek State Park

Board Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2011

In attendance: John Richardson, Kathy Serrat, Jim Rahilly, Marci deGroot, Alex deGroot, Tim Cordell

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

·Minutes from the previous meeting on October 19, 2010 were approved.

·The Treasurer’s Report was given.

Jan. 2011 Balance Sheet			
<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>		
Memberships	\$15.00		
		January	
Special Events	\$574.40	New Memb's	\$15.00
		Special events	\$0.00
Park Supply	\$2,595.34	Park Supply Fund	-\$70.22
		Gen Ops	\$885.00
General Op's	\$1,565.69	Grants & Projects	\$435.00
		NOTE: Gen Ops is rollover memb \$	
Grants & Donations	\$2,371.84	Net Change	\$1,264.78
		NOTE: Changes since 12-21-10	
Total Assets	\$7,122.27	as of 1-18-11	
		Encumbered funds	
		bird seed	\$1,131.43
		Mangus	\$250.00
		Spkr Fund	\$89.77
		Trail Proj	\$2,060.00
			\$3,531.20

Kathy moved to approve and Marci seconded with all in favor.

·Committee Reports:

Fall fundraiser report from Marie: We received over \$3,500 marked for Nature Center bird seed, the Mangus Memorial Landscaping project, the Speaker fund, and the Wetland Trail project. Many donations came from the Audubon Society due to exposure in their newsletter thanks to Scott Namesnick.

Newsletter: Melody needs articles for the upcoming spring newsletter. Some ideas for articles were the Egg Hunt, Thanks to the Audubon Society, Halloween Report, Membership Report, Summary of 2010, End of Year Giving Report, Reminder of elections at the March meeting, and Membership

renewal. We would also like to add some pictures of the Wetland trail with possible locations for boardwalks.

Events: Egg Hunt: The Board appointed the Kreuger's as coordinators. Marci moved to approve a budget of \$300 for the event and Kathy seconded with all in favor. The hunt will be held at the Beach this year to remedy parking and restroom issues as well as make the hiding of eggs more challenging. There are supplies from last year available at the Nature Center. Marie will contact Chrissy regarding whether or not her friend can bring some animals to the event. If not, John will contact Charlotte Wolff. Marie will contact Anna to coordinate an egg stuffing session.

·Old Business

Wetland Trail development and funding: We discussed the possible use of composite materials instead of wood. Work will begin in June or July to allow the site to dry out. We will use some of the park's leftover gravel for paths to proposed boardwalk sites. Funding provided by the End of Year Giving would hopefully cover two or three boardwalks.

Mangus Memorial: The Watson's volunteered to work on the project, but designs have not been finalized.

·New Business

Grants: We will keep an eye out for grants that fund exotic species control.

March Elections: There was discussion of lessening the number of Board members from seven to five since the positions have been difficult to fill in the past. Since this would require a change in the bylaws, it will be discussed in the newsletter and at the March meeting for comments and approval. Four Board positions will be up for election at this time. If there is not enough interest, the Board will carry on with vacancies. The positions held by Melody, Chrissy, Kathy, and Marie will be available.

Passive Booth Display: Tim has been contacted several times by the LaPorte County Fair, as well as other fairs, to set up a booth. Since we do not have the manpower to have people there at all times, we will try using a tri-fold poster board with information about the park and the Friends group set up on a table.

Nature Center Weather Center: The touch screen has not been working. Many patrons use this especially in the case of inclement weather. Tim knows someone who could fix it for \$140. Jim moved to approve \$140 for the repair and Marci seconded with all in favor.

Notice of membership renewals will be sent out by February so that new members will be able to vote in March. One window cling will be sent to renewals even if they have received some in the past.

·Marci moved to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:03 p.m. and Kathy seconded with all in favor.