

**MINUTES-FRIENDS OF DONALD PARK, INC. MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:  
05/20/08**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Board: Ted Bailey, Mary Feldt, Pat Hitchcock, Matt Marty, Roger Parr, Ron Rassner, Dave Schreiber, Donna Thomas. Guests: Bob Woodburn, Nan Woodburn, Laurie Huntoon. Recording Secretary B. Hartman

Meeting called to order by D. Schreiber: 6:50 P.M.

**REVIEW AGENDA:** Motion by R. Parr/R. Rassner to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES:** MOTION by M. Feldt/R. Parr to approve April 15, 2008 meeting minutes with changes (i.e. Trees are to be planted at Pop's Knoll shelter and \$700 cost removed). Motion carried unanimously.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** Jeanne Eloranta donated the flowers that are planted in the water tank at Pat's. Barb will send thank you.

**REPORTS**

**SECRETARY REPORT:** No Report

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ted Bailey: Reported a balance of \$28,227 which includes; Donations \$4,100, Trail Passes - \$1,400, Membership - \$2,300, Community Grant - \$9,500, Deer Creek Prairie Vista Grant - \$10,000 plus other miscellaneous general funds. Three CD's are (\$18,000) are due in July, August and November. Motion by R. Rassner/M. Marty to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.

**PRESIDENT:** D. Schreiber: Dave updated the board on the bridge projects and the response from Chris James of DCP. DCP was supportive of our request to use Scheidegger funds for the North Access trail bridges. We will be using approximately \$15,000 from the Scheidegger funds toward the bridges. According to DNR, having less than the required 5 ft. clearance above the OHWM would not be an issue as the streams would not be used for canoeing or wading. They also indicated we can apply for a general permit rather than an individual permit which would speed up the permit process time. The bridges can only be built between May and September and it a minimum of a 6-week process with getting the permit, bid and Committee and County Board approval. Building fords on Frye's Feeder and Deer Creek are not permitted as they are trout waters and fords are only permitted for agricultural use and DNR does not permit fords for a trail crossing. It will be sometime before we get to the design, bid and building stage.

**ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION REPORT:** B. Hartman reported approximately 20 hours in April and has been meeting with Pat Hitchcock on a weekly basis. Added duties are picking up the mail, communicate and distribute as needed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET, FINANCE, AND PLANNING -** No Report

**MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNICATIONS:** D. Thomas: Barb will eventually be taking over the membership process once the program is passed on to her. Beginning in 2009 a renewal reminder letter will be sent with the first request in late January for renewal effective March.

**NEWSLETTER:** D. Thomas: The next newsletter will go out early June, but before the Fathers Day Picnic. A fall newsletter is targeted for October. The ideal timeline is to print three newsletters per year/every four months.

**WEBSITE:** R. Parr: Roger has been working with Megan and a link has been installed to the County website to get updates on trail closings due to weather conditions.

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATION: P. Hitchcock**

Volunteer communications are going well and we are working on re-developing the steward program and have contacted past stewards to determine their interest.

**NATURAL AREAS: P. Hitchcock:**

Action Items:

- \*\* May 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will be visiting the park to work with Mary Spaay.
- \*\* May 31<sup>st</sup> the USRWS and the boy scouts will be doing clean up at Deer Creek.
- \*\* Mt. Vernon Rock Lookout - The Eagle Scouts will be building the look out at the top of Mt. Vernon Rock. They will work with Chris James and Wayne Pauley on the design which will be a one-way trail to preserve the rock area. The scouts are responsible for the materials and will get sponsors to help them defray their costs.
- \*\* Handicap Fishing Pier - DP is looking into putting in a handicap fishing pier on Frye's Feeder where the creek and trail head intersect off of 92 west of Pop's Knoll. We will be working with Chris James to prepare plans.
- \*\* USRWS - Steve Haack trimmed willows on Frye's Feeder. There is a possibility that hay will be made in the cleared area near Frye's feeder.

**EQUESTRIAN TRAILS: R. Parr:**

Action Items:

- \*\* A culvert has collapsed on the Connor Farm near Devil's Chimney, but the property owner will be repairing it.
- \*\* Trails are being mowed.
- \*\* Trees are being trimmed and fence line work is being done to prepare for the bridge work.

**EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION: M. Marty:**

- \*\* Matt Marty updated the board on the Archeological Research Project budget. Matt explained all of the components and outlined what is included in their respective costs. The budget totals \$12,000.
- \*\* Matt also reviewed the revised archaeology work plan which includes a re-survey of plowed fields and sites and the costs involved with the revised plan.
- \*\* The Foye Cabin Site survey and test excavations were discussed with respect to purpose, tasks and schedule, deliverables and estimated costs for time and supplies.
- \*\* A storage agreement has been secured with the Mt. Horeb Historical Society for storage of cultural/historical items at a cost of \$500 and was discussed as part of the budget.
- \*\* \$150 cost for a flint knapper demo at the Father's Day picnic will be covered by the budget.
- \*\* Park acreage to date totals approximately 900 acres, (620 purchased and 280 easement acres).
- \*\* Donna Thomas asked that we confirm with Bob Birmingham what can be printed in the newsletter about the archeological finds. (i.e., exact wording and locations).

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Action Items

- \*\* Scheidegger Grant Committee Recommendation: Discussion followed on whether we could use funds from this grant toward building the park image. Ron Rassner presented information he had researched on consultant, Tom Woods, to assist with our park image project. Discussion followed that identified the criteria necessary to create an image that would tell the story of Donald Park and be a possible 'model' for other county parks. 1) Identify the theme and story of Donald Park that needs to be told; 2) Create a matrix of how to present to an audience, sign/experience; 3) Create an effective, emotional impact with our image. Next steps would be to identify possible spots in our trail system for the image, select a board of people to help tell our story and narrow down our plans and input to present to Sara Kwitek at DCP to get the project approved for the Scheidegger grant. A suggestion was put to the board to find other interest groups for additional funding. Mary Feldt suggested contacting the Rotary as a possible resource.

\*\* Fathers Day Picnic: Don Hartman reported that he and Nina are coordinating the events of the day. Thom & Cheri Crownhart have accepted the invitation to set up their teepee and host a reenactment of pioneer life. R. Parr offered to bring his 'paint' horses to the picnic. Nina has written a press release which will be posted in the Mt. Horeb Mail prior to the picnic.

\*\* Park gate closing arrangements: Currently Bud Larsen is still opening and closing the park gate daily. Mary Klopotic and her children will take over when Bud decides he can no longer do it.

\*\* Membership/Volunteer Data Management: Membership and volunteer data will be consolidated and eventually passed on to Barb. T. Bailey and D. Thomas will coordinate the effort.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Action Item

Set date for fall Board meeting with DCP to discuss plans for development west of Sutter Road. Suggested date should be after the park closes and include a work session to look at projects involved with this development. Suggested dates were Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>h</sup>.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE BILLS:** Motion by R. Parr/M. Marty to approve outstanding bills totaling \$787.85. Carried unanimously.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

Tuesday, June 17, 2008 6:30 p.m. Dave will contact Vicki Anderson to see if we can have our usual pool spot at her home for the June meeting.

Suggested Agenda Items:

Scheidegger Fund, Historical Committee Update—Matt will invite Bob Birmingham to meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion by T. Bailey/M. Marty to adjourn by unanimous consent at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Barb Hartman, Recording Secretary