

Washington Island Parks Committee

October 6, 2015

4pm, Rutledge Room

Present: Randy Sorensen, Jill Jorgenson, Liz Holmes, Cheri Miotke  
Community Members: Bonnie Burnham, Jonathan Mann, Mary Marik

Liz called the meeting to order at 4:00. A motion was made by Randy, seconded by Liz to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Motion passed.

Correspondence from Kay Becker stated that a board has been formed for the Friends of Schoolhouse Beach and a mission statement written. Status for a Friends group has been filed with the federal government, but not yet the state. Liz stated that they have achieved non-profit status. Liz will check out the Facebook page of Rick Heineman for possible pictures for a sign/kiosk when the Friends are ready to move forward. Jonathan suggested having the sign done professionally, in order to be weatherproof and vandal proof.

Bonnie Burnham suggested the idea of an island dog park near the ball field. Liz stated that dogs are banned from the park during ball games, which may be confusing. An area for dogs has been opened near the water. Bonnie remarked that people are interested in a fenced in area. Liz will share the idea with the town board. Jonathan asked about the legality of dogs on state, nature conservancy, or land trust areas. Liz will check with Kirby Foss.

Committee reports

Schoolhouse Beach: Jill will talk to Dani Kickbush about the possibility of school children painting more garbage cans and lids. Jonathan said the town crew would pressure wash the cans before painting. He also stated that dead cedars will be removed from the park.

Mountain Park: Liz will propose pit toilets be installed.

Heritage Trail: Randy has walked the trail and removed black numeral plaques. The town crew will continue to remove deadfall, chipping it on-site and putting it on the trail.

Sand Dunes: The fence was moved to indicate the new boundaries. Brush and deadfall will be removed.

Gislason Beach: The sandy area needs to be maintained by the addition of sand in washed out areas.

Percy Park: Dead trees have been removed in the immediate park area. Stumps will be removed and holes filled. New toilet is scheduled to arrive on October 13.

Witness Tree: Jonathan suggested a large boulder to be put near the water's edge for sitting on. The group discussed benches and/or tables, but decided to leave the area completely natural.

Boyers Bluff, Little Lake, People's Park: Unable to attend the meeting, Donna Benson prepared a written report which was given to Jonathan. At Little Lake, the town crew will set up the anchor and put the old wagon on a slab to get it off the ground, as the spokes on the wheels are deteriorating. At People's Park the lot line will be cleaned up, with brush chipped and distributed.

Cheri moved, Jill seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting ended at 4:53.

submitted by Cheri Miotke