

Friends of Shabbona Lake State Park Meeting
April 2, 2015
7:00 P.M., Resource Bank Schoolhouse

President Spencer Meyers opened the meeting. After welcoming everyone, Spencer asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Board Members in attendance: Spencer Meyers, Rich McElligott, Frankie Benson, Clint Sands, Duane Landmeier, Jan Knudsen, Denny Sands Tim Tausch, Kathy Sands, and Kerry Novak, Shabbona Lake State Park Superintendent. Absent: Molly Haseman.

Thirteen additional members were in attendance.

Many things have already been accomplished. The application form, the Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation, the EIN number, a press release, 501c3 approved, the Shabbona Lake State Park website and social media postings. There was discussion concerning how receipts for dues and donations paid will be disbursed. Emailing receipts was discussed. Vicky Atkinson explained how it was handled in another organization she is in. She will get the form to Spencer.

There are items left to do: file with the Illinois Attorney General, insure the organization and its Officers and Directors, and issue 501c3 receipts for charitable donations to all member and donors.

The need for insurance was discussed. Spencer reported on some quotes he received, \$250.00 for Officers and Directors and \$450.00 for all members of the organization, for a total of \$700.00. He is expecting two more quotes. They need to see the 501c3. We can purchase a onetime event insurance policy or we can have a policy that covers multiple events. We do have the funds to cover insurance costs.

Different insurance scenarios were discussed. Mike Tuman said having insurance is the cost of doing business. Spencer stated the organization could have a lot of liability. Spencer said it is valuable for us, if members have a background in things we need information about, like Mike with the insurance. Mike Tuman and Spencer agreed to meet to work on insurance. Spencer suggested that an insurance agent should attend a meeting.

Vicky Atkinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the Officers and Directors meeting on March 3, 2015 and the minutes from the first meeting on February 19, 2015. Frankie Benson seconded and the motion passed.

Jan Knudsen made a motion for a \$700.00 cap for insurance and \$100.00 for a petty cash fund. Duane Landmeier seconded and it passed unanimously.

Kerry passed out a Park Needs/Project handout.

Kerry Novak explained how the sustainability money, (\$2. license plate increase) has helped over the recent months. He also explained how his budget had dried up over the last twelve to fourteen years. He mentioned that the playgrounds were down to one swing, the picnic tables need immediate repair and asked for assistance from the organization. Clint will put request on social media sites and send out an email to our members.

Shabbona Lake pays \$30,000.00 to \$32,000.00 for their electric bill. A lot of the Park's budget is used for basic maintenance. Some sustainability money was used to purchase a chain saw and small equipment. Kerry would like to move to solar driven lights.

Around September, Kerry, usually hears about his budget allocation. Spencer asked if money is allotted to certain things. Kerry said that he does not have an itemized list of what to do for his budget. It was asked if state will cut the park's budget if the organization does park projects? Kerry said no, what the organization does, helps them do other things.

Spencer gave an example about bolts costing \$600.00 - \$800.00 and going to the hardware stores to ask them to have their vendors donate the bolts to our 501c3 organization as a tax write off. Kerry said that is what the Lions Club did, when they rebuilt the handicap pier three or four years ago. They received all their project donations from several places.

Kerry spoke about being an Illinois Department of Natural Resources volunteer. Volunteers sign a waiver form at the park office, that takes care of state liability and the state can't be sued.

Committee assignments will be decided at the next Officers and Directors meeting. Spencer would like to get some goals set and what's it going to take to get them done. He asked that everyone think about this. Clint Sands asked for ideas to be emailed to Friends of Shabbona Lake State Park.

Spencer stated that if we know what, for example, a Scout group is doing, so that it can be marketed and be mentioned to encourage donations to the organization. Tim Tausch is involved in Scouting and will contact them to do projects.

Denny presented the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report is completed in Quicken. How many times do we ask people, considering membership, to sign up? Clint explained that they can unsubscribe, if they do not want to be approached again. Clint asked if we are set up for tax exempt with the Department of Revenue. Denny said not yet and will check into this.

As of tonight, the organization has 40 members.

The next meeting is Wednesday, June 3, 2015, 7:00 P.M., Resource Bank Schoolhouse.

Spencer adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Sands