

Friends of Shabbona Lake State Park
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2015, 7:00 P.M.
Resource Bank Schoolhouse

Denny Sands called the first meeting, to create, a Friends of Shabbona Lake State Park organization to order. He introduced Molly Haseman, Kerry Novak and Clint Sands.

Denny explained that this was an organizational meeting. The organization would be a Non-For-Profit and not subject to the Open Meeting Act. In order to file for a 501c3, we need to have officers elected. Denny also asked that attendees fill out their applications tonight. He stated that we would go through the agenda and then open the floor for any questions.

Kerry Novak, Shabbona Lake State Park Superintendent, thanked everyone for coming and how happy he was for the public support. He said that public support was absolutely essential. He discussed other Friends groups in the state, such as, Starved Rock, the Round Barn, Franklin Creek, the Blackhawk restoration and the I & M Canal restoration. Kerry noted items in need for the state park which included habitat, recreational activities, the softball field that no longer exists, and beautification projects, like beds around signs. He explained that any projects must have state approval which can include state biologists, ORC, EPA, and fire marshal departments. He suggested an enclosed shelter with a fireplace as a need within the park. Kerry said this is an exciting start and thanked everyone for coming.

Molly Haseman, Shabbona Lake State Park Office Coordinator, thanked everyone for coming out on such a cold night. She explained her role as the liason for the park with the Friends of Shabbona Lake. She will have no policy making involvement and no activity with decision making, for example, the budget. She will handle the paperwork and get that to the proper people involved, making sure the paperwork flows. She will keep the DNR abreast of anything new the Friends are doing.

Denny thanked Molly and started going over the agenda. He told all that we do have an email address, friendsofshabbonalake@gmail.com. Becky Wardlow stated that we have two web domain names, www.friendsofshabbonalake.org and www.friendsofshabbonalake.com with one being the master.

Denny and Clint explained how the membership application and bylaws were developed using Evergreen's application and Granite City's bylaws. After committees are created, both of these can be referred to them to go over.

Denny explained the items to do.

1. It will cost \$400.00 to apply for the 501c3. (Non-For-Profit, Tax Deductible)
2. We have to have an EIN to do any banking. Denny said he already did this.
3. To apply for the Articles of Incorporation will cost \$77.75 (IL Sec. of State)
4. We need to file with the Illinois Attorney General Office for a fee of \$15.00

Denny stated we need a vote to create the Friends of Shabbona Lake organization. Vicky Atkinson made the motion and Rich McElligott seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Frankie Benson made a motion to allocate \$492.75 to apply for the 501c3, the Articles of Incorporation and file with the Attorney General's office. Spencer Meyers seconded. It was questioned where the money was coming from to do this. Denny replied that it would be from the membership dues and that we already had enough to do these three items. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about the application fees for seniors. Becky Wardlow made a motion to use state guidelines of 62 years of age for a senior. Jim Lemmler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion concerning membership voting. If a club joins, does each member of the club get a vote or does the club get one vote. Denny answered that the club would get one vote, but that if a member of a club became an individual member of the Friends, that member could vote as individual also.

After discussion, Don Goncher made a motion that membership voting rights are eighteen and over. Tim Pierce seconded. The motion passed with one abstention and one opposed.

A motion was made by Tim Piece that Endowments and Sustaining Memberships would be discussed and referred to a committee at the next meeting. Frankie Benson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Officers and Directors were the item on the agenda. Denny discussed that Spencer Meyers had expressed an interest serving as President. Jim Lemmler made a motion to nominate Spencer Meyers as President. Larry Kimpan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Peg Jordal made a motion to nominate Frankie Benson as Vice President. Bryan Dallas seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jack Cerny made a motion to nominate Kathy Sands as Secretary. Diana Vandre seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Diana Vandre made a motion to nominate Denny Sands as Treasurer. Rich McElligott seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Lemmler made a motion to nominate Clint Sands to do the Marketing. Mike Falkos seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Frankie Benson made a motion to nominate Jan Knudsen as a Director. Peg Jordal seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Christian Deutsch made a motion to nominate Tim Tausch as a Director. Jim Lemmler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Carl Buehrer made a motion to nominate Duane Landmeier as a Director. Jim Lemmler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Larry Kimpan made a motion to nominate Rich McElligott as a Director. Jack Cerny seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about committees. Some suggestions were: Park Enhancements, By-Laws, Recruitment and Marketing. Jerry Foster informed the attendees of the free Marketing Event, Kick Start, on February 20th, being held here at the bank sponsored by the Waterman Shabbona Business Association.

It was suggested that everyone write on the back of their membership applications what their interests would be in helping the park. This would assist making committees and

putting volunteers in the right groups. Committee Chairs will be determined at the next meeting.

Denny stated that the goal is to communicate through email. Denny told everyone what his email address is: san8dn@aol.com.

Kerry offered the use of the park office for meetings.

Frankie Benson spoke about grant money. Denny explained that the IDNR runs the grant program, but that they are not applicable for anything within state parks.

At the next meeting, ideas for the park will be discussed.

Becky Wardlow suggested that everyone introduce themselves and tell why they came.

The need for insurance was questioned and it was suggested by Jerry that insurance covering the Directors for exposure would be good.

Clint addressed finalizing the applications. When this is done, he will set up the option for paying membership dues online.

Jim Lemmler reminded everyone to sign up tonight before you go.

The officers will meet in the next two weeks.

The next meeting is April 2, 2015, at 7:00 P.M., at the Resource Bank.

Denny made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Frankie seconded and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Sands