

Friends of Wabeno

7/15/15 Minutes

Meeting started at 7pm; 12 people in attendance

Minutes were read by Secretary Lynn LaRock, Karen McEwen made a motion to accept as read, second by Kathy McHugh, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Darlene Edelbeck reported the checking account has \$1500. Money that came in: Lions \$300, \$500 Trump Lake Association, approximately \$200 brat fry during Dual Sport Ride and \$15 from the postcards. Checks that were written this month were Kentuck Day booth \$60, Flowers Galore \$189 and Flowers from the Heart \$150 for planting the planters. Motion to accept the treasurer's report by Kathy McHugh, second by Ralph McHugh, all were in favor.

AmeriCorps Representative Eric the working supervisor reported that weather has been a factor hampering the boardwalk. If the weather will hold out, the trail will be finished when they leave but to be safe they are working on the hardest part. During the rainy times the group have painted the dining hall floor at the Firefighter's Ground, painted the bleachers and picnic tables, pulled out 16,000 tons of brush along the trail and grounds and worked on the schoolhouse ceiling.

They are required to have a Community Volunteer Day usually lasting 4 hours. They would like it to be Sunday, July 26 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. with Raletta from Flowers Galore organizing a potluck.

The application process to become an AmeriCorps member is to submit an application followed by an interview. It is a 10 month long service program. A team consists of 7-12 members with a supervisor. They are in a town for 6-8 weeks. The reason it seems why they apply is for travel, cultural learning experience, etc. The program ends in November with graduation. The next group starts forming in January. The team has a food budget but the sponsor supplies the housing (they even have camped in a town already). They really like our school accommodations. Each AmeriCorps member is required to have 1700 direct service hours. Upon graduation from the program, each member can receive a \$5700 educational award (like a Pell grant). What is expected of a team member is a level of professionalism. There are 200 core members. The team does rank a town for sponsorship and their project through a project review. Sometimes the sponsors do not realize how much work a team can do and they have to be creative to fill in the days to fulfill their work schedule. There are different names for teams; our team is called Cedar 7. Teams have their own 'personalities'. The Cedar teams tend to be more serious and independent minded and Maple teams are more relaxed and kookie.

Phase 2 There are 3 grants for this part. Funding: (1) Lumberjack Resources Conservation & Development \$10,000 (2) Remington Foundation for \$10,500 (3) \$45,000 from DNR (which we have to match with in-kind labor and cash and we have 2 years to get it done) and \$4,100 left from Potawatomi. Mary does have 4-5 letters of intent sent out with 1 rejection so far. We are waiting for Lowe's with a \$27,000 grant to be used for products out of their store such as the fixtures and roofing. We are waiting for the WPS grant for \$10,000 also. If we do not get any grants we will consider crowdfunding to raise the money to finish the projects. With crowdfunding there is a downside as a person has to be on it every day as people like to have a response to their donation. We may use Kickstarter or indiegogo. (<https://www.indiegogo.com/>)

The AmeriCorps will also fine tune the boardwalk bridge near the Spruce tree in the Legion Park so everything is finished for the Wabeno Art and Music Fest I coming up August 1st and 2nd. That boardwalk may need to be changed later as the slope is not correct.

Grocery Store – Mary toured the store with a couple who would like to have a full scale grocery store and the Spark's is the right size for them. After they saw it they said it required too much for them to repair. The butcher that Mary has been in contact with decided to start up business in Tomahawk. There is a rumor that a butcher market will open up in Laona in the old Lewis store located by T-Bob's. Mary will contact Aldi's about coming into Wabeno. Mary will also stay in touch with Naletta Burr of the state because of Governor Walker's budget and what can be done and what can't be done now. Mary will also contact the store in Florence since they seem to be a very thriving store and if he could check out Wabeno again.

The Grand Plank Hotel is working on their electricity and plumbing according to the owner's aunt and uncle, Bob and Marie. They plan on having a bar and grill in one section with more coming. Mary connected them with Jimmy Smith to talk to them about the foundation of the building.

Kay Swanson reminded us that the most important things we need are food, clothing and shelter to live and thrive, all of which are in short supply within town. Kay also thought we have to work with Sanitary District to plan for the future development.

Country Market – Kathy McHugh reported that the Country Market signs are done and can be picked up. Vendors seem to be a hit and miss when they come. Both Kathy and Joan seem to get interest in the market all the time – just to get them there all at the same time is the problem. They have decided to include a flea market with the produce in the front and the flea market in the back row or by the side road. This was also discussed with Josh of the chamber.

Rustic Roads Lynn reported that the Rustic Roads Board thought we had a strong presentation but would like part of Kuffner and Camp One taken off the application and put County C out to Bay Shore added. The presentation was to be 5-7 minutes long and 2 hours later we walked out

because they had so many questions about our area and history of our town. We will tweak the application and since it is a county road a presentation will have to be made to the county board to be approved. The Wabeno Town Board will have to revise our town roads on the application if they would like it to be included also. The Rustic Roads Board did say in November when we have our next meeting make sure to have everything in and we won't even have to discuss it as we researched it already and can approve it right away.

Fundraising – Brat stand at the Dual Sport Ride did not go over this year so we have a case of brats and hamburgers left. Kathy will talk to Dawn at the Chamber to see if we can have a stand at the Family Fun Day.

Kentuck Day – we need 80 pies. Mary has a committed group that will bake 18 pies. Kathy has 20 pies committed. Asking for everyone to bake pies and ask others to do so also. We made \$860 last year. AmeriCorps will be setting up a recruitment table at Kentuck Days and also help with set up in the morning.

Art & Music Fest –. There will be 3 stages with 25 musicians, going constantly and 18 fine art groups. It will be held August 1 – 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. August 2 -11:00 – 3:00 p.m. There will be headliners on the bandshell, then a pop up stage along side it with a children's band in the pavilion in the Legion Park. Flyers are to be distributed. Food will be pork ribs, pickles, with a fancy sauce, Mediterranean ground chick peas, called Falafel, in pita bread with cucumber sauce, WAM torpedoes that are skinny subs with meat and spinach and cupcakes for dessert. There are 3 – three hour slots to work. Four people will be on each shift. Beer stand will have Bud, Miller, Leiny Summer Shanty, Sam Adams Cream Stout, Lemonade and Root Beer. There will be 3 shifts: 11-3, 3-7, 7-10. Please call Kathy, Peggy or Mary for volunteering. We will get grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board but haven't heard what amount we are getting. We requested \$6000 and need at least \$4000 to cover the musicians. Josh at the chamber printed up all the posters. Friends were asked to distribute posters in Wabeno, Townsend and Lakewood. We do have to contact the radio and tv stations for advertising. Social media has been used quite extensively already to let people know.

Next Meeting – August 13, 7pm

Adjourn Motion by Kathy McHugh, second by Biz McEwen, all in favor.

The whole AmeriCorps then came in and introduced themselves, where they were from and what they liked about Wabeno. The team is Eric, Maria, Ki, Jeremy, Kelsey, James, Kyra, Jesse and Charles.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn LaRock, Sec