

Friends of McGilvray Road
Annual Meeting
September 18, 2006
Seven Bridges Restaurant

Minutes were read and approved

Treasurer's Report was read and sent to audit. Checking holds 1185.58, savings zero and our investments total \$82,092.37.

Old Business: Ron Lichtie reported on several areas of interest to the Friends. One area of interest being the ongoing negotiations for 101 acres or part thereof the Shumann Farm. They have approximately 25-30 acres along the corridor that we would be interested in. He also recommended that we revisit our Mission goals and have a more active interaction with the State of Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources. We have not been updating our information with them. Such things as change of officers, treasurers report, etc. They want to know how our money is being spent since we are a non-profit organization. Ron would like to sit with Nancy and Phil sometime this winter and come up with a master plan. This plan could be used to attract new members too if we would post it or share it with other Friends groups. He talked about our plans for making the bridges accessible for the physically challenged, maybe a smoother road, mowing, moving water at some of the approaches to the bridges. The NASA Squirrel group could possibly be of help in the design to help get wheelchairs down to the bridges. He would like to see some native grasses planted on the side of the steps, maybe slope that a little more. It would provide more visibility to the parking lot as well and maybe prohibit the vandalism. Ron and Mac discussed what trees and shrubs could be removed and Mac offered to help with that. Ron will find out about a grant for better access.

He also recommended we start keeping track of our time spent working at the bridges because it would help when we apply for a grant. Include the 100th anniversary celebration, trail maintenance, administration time, education of public, and public relations. Keep it on an Xcel sheet. We talked about the sign on the road near the parking lot and our thoughts of turning it perpendicular to the road. Nancy talked to Quality Sign and Ron thought maybe he could have it done on wood by the DNR if we paid for the wood. He will check into it. We agreed to cover the cost up to \$325.00. Motion made and approved. We want to either, turn the existing sign and add another side to it, or have a new sign, two-sided, made from wood and using DNR colors and "Seven Bridges-McGilvray Road" wording. Blacktopping of the parking lot needs to have Ron involved in the planning because it could involve more maintenance-snow plowing, sealing, striping.

Rick has the cleaner for the rock, which is weeping, so Phil will contact him and get that done. Nancy asked if we, as a group, would be willing to join the Friends of the Black River for a meeting. We agreed. Rolf Skogstad, from the Black River group, has sent Nancy a letter suggesting we bring together some groups like Lake Arbuttus, Sierra Club,

Mississippi Valley Conservancy etc for a meeting so we could see what other groups are doing for preservation. We also need to do some research on how and where the local hiking/ biking trails connect.

Membership: Do a 5 year plan and do an event in the Town of Holland to show people what we have done and what we plan to do.

Regarding the offer from Ray Kyro for his papers, Ron L suggested Ray work with UW students who are looking for projects and ask them to help update his slides etc to CD's

Our annual election of officers include Nancy Hill, President; Phil Yehle-Vice President; Karla Pierson –Secretary and Treasurer (secretary until Rick comes back) .

Our next meeting is December 11th at 6:00pm at Pizza Corral. We would like to have four meetings a year, with speakers and other groups.

Sometime in January for our meeting with the other groups.

Respectfully

Karla Pierson
Treas.