

Beaver Island Wildlife Club
Board of director's Meeting
March 31, 2016

Present: Jeff Powers, Mark and Jacque LaFreniere, Bill and Shirley Detwiler, Bob Tidmore, Phil Wyckoff and Don Tritsch (call in)

NLMI Landscape plan: Phil and Don have been attending meetings regarding a proposed Landscape plan for Beaver Island state lands. Eric Myers (on phone) explained the concepts: Core Wildlife Areas would have no roads and be left alone regarding any management. However they could be used for recreation- hiking, hunting etc... The goal would be to have areas of different successional types and biodiversity. With this landscape plan, there must be a balance between the ecology (CWA), economics (logging and ecotourism) and social/cultural (hunting and fishing). The BIWC should help develop the plan for the social/cultural aspects- what we need and prioritize important areas. Ideally areas would accomplish all three aspects. Don T. suggested a heavy emphasis on recreation- hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, etc. Eric Ellis is working to help ID habitat for improvement. Phil reported that the group was willing to allow the BIWC to ID 20-40 acres for clear cutting- possibly areas around Johnny Martin's trail south of the gravel pit. Eric M. suggested there might be older poplar areas to consider. Phil Suggested we bring members up to speed and ask their input. Jacque mentioned a newsletter is coming up and also the website could be places to provide information. Phil also suggested we hold off on this grant cycle (which would mean we wouldn't have done any cutting in two winters.)

Eric M. also mentioned that we should ID areas to be cut and cycle them through the years. Benefits of CWA include that wilderness appeals to ecotourists. Also it would not exclude hunting and fishing. The size of the areas is important as too small and the areas wouldn't accomplish what the goals were. It is easy to create early successional forests, but can't "create" old growth, so we must preserve some.

Bill Parsons (on phone) wants to meet with BIWC in a couple of months and get input.

Buffer areas would be heavier usage, roads, logging allowed. Someone suggested that maybe BI is not big enough for these goals.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve, by Jacque L. Second by Jeff P Passed

Secretary's report: motion Bill D. Second Shirley D. passed

501c3 and Grant: Phil reported that he has everything he needs for the 501c3 and will train us all at the next meeting as to what needs to be reported, etc. The grant cycle begins June 1- July (late)

Walleye Stocking: Jeff P. left messages for Heather Sites-Hettinger. Phil also talked to Bill Parsons- the tribe will plant some fingerlings and also do a census on both Fox L. and Lake G. this summer. There is some concern of lack of fish in Fox Lake recently.

Cormorant training: Bob T. sent email to Tony Aderman to plan for training in late April.

Ice Fishing Tournament: Thank you to all who helped put this together and on. Suggestions for next time include setting up on the ice, closer to the fishing area. Staging area at North arm but need to have more ability to get folks out on the ice. Sponsors on island are willing to give. Maybe add a spring/summer tournament in June. A committee was formed: Shirley Detwiler, Ben Delamater, Levi Connor, Craig Gregory, and Rob Belinger. Tina Morgan might want to help out too. Jeff P. reported that he is having the winning fish mounted for display.

Pam Grassmick reported that Mike Merriwether, forester from Antrim County will be on island for a presentation on June 2. How to write a good contract and best practices in logging: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. at the Community Center.

Docks on Lake G. and Fox Lake: Bob T. will check with DNR (Pam said the state owns the property so shouldn't need Township permission)

CRA is sending us about 200 trees this spring. Bruce Beaudoin will pick them up and get them to boat or plane that weekend.

Jeff P. moved that Levi Connor and Rob Belinger be given memberships in the wildlife club for one year, as a thank you for helping and encouragement to continue. Seconded by Jacque L. Passed.

Don has draft of goals.

MOTION: to adjourn made by Bill D. second by Phil W. passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.