

Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed Plan Committee

March 4, 2014

Present: Lynne Diebel, Sharon Beall, Ingrid West, Jim Danky, Jim Post, Marsha Vomastic

Guest

Thank you to Andy Paulios, Property Manager of the Badfish Creek Wildlife Area, for addressing the group about the canoe landing. andy.paulios@wisconsin.gov, 608-275-3250

Canoe Landing at Old Stage Road

Andy Paulios is WDNR Wildlife Biologist for Dane County (Mike Foy is Andy's counterpart in Rock County). Andy told the group that WDNR is about 1/3 done with redoing master plans for all wildlife areas. The draft is complete; deciding on alternatives is next, then public review and final decision by the October Natural Resources Board meeting. Public comment meetings are planned for sometime between late May and July.

Mike Foy, Heidi Hayes and Andy are planning the internal work for the master plan – a Rapid Ecological Assessment (Bureau of Natural Resource Heritage) and a Regional Property Analysis.

Andy is working with Ed Jepson to create a set of objectives for the Badfish WA (which he termed “a big chunk of habitat”). The set of objectives could include a canoe landing.

Allowable activities in a WA are hunting, fishing, trapping, passive outdoor activity like hiking and skiing. No camping or ATV trails. We could also develop hiking trails, with dogs allowed off leash outside nesting season.

\$200,000 in Knowles-Nelson stewardship fund for “registered” friends groups. November grant application deadline. Andy will call Bridget Brown about registering FBCW.

Other projects could include wildlife area conservation, as along the Ice Age Trail at Lodi. Andy said summer projects in a wetland are not appealing to volunteers b/c of mosquitos. Ingrid and Ray are certified to do prescribed burns.

Discussed building kiosk at parking area.

Action items:

Andy said to nag him about getting FBCW registered to apply for stewardship grants.

Find out date of the first public comment meeting.

Web Site Report

Marsha reported that the website is a WordPress site and the webhost is “A Small Orange.”

Action items: Everyone should visit the site. Is it easily navigated? Should we replace the content with updated stuff?

Survey

Marsha said we have 30 responses to the first survey and suggested that we start a new survey specific to the plan.

Highway Cleanup

We signed up for the dates that Christine suggested.

April 19 – Jim D, Lynne, Jim P

May 23 – Sharon, Lynne, Jim P

Action items: Lynne will email the names to Christine.