

**DAIRYLAND WALKERS BIMONTHLY MEETING
MIDDLETON COMMUNITY BANK
JUNE 13, 2007**

Officers Present: Tom McCrill (Co-President); Ed Reid (Vice President); Karen Reger (Secretary); Russ Crane (Treasurer)

In Attendance: 12

MEETING

Tom McCrill called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. There were no new items to be added to the agenda, and the agenda was adopted as emailed out to Board members.

Meeting Minutes (Karen Reger)

The last membership meeting, to be held on April 11, was canceled due to the weather. There were several paper copies of the minutes of the February 7 meeting, and these minutes were accepted with no discussion.

President's Report (Tom McCrill)

Regarding publicity, there is a listing for the Elver Park walk in the *50 Plus Lifestyles* magazine, including a picture of Barb Borde and Bonnie Hamer working at a checkpoint. There is also an article about volkssporting in the June issue of *Silent Sports* magazine, written by Karen Reger and Russ Crane.

In the latest issue of *The American Wanderer*, there is an article about the upcoming Wisconsin Walking Weekend events, which also indicated that Madison was chosen by *Prevention* magazine as being the nation's number one city for walking. Also appearing in *The American Wanderer* is an article about the upcoming Fall Color Walking Tour bus trip.

Russ Crane also mentioned that a weatherman on Channel 27 has mentioned the Elver Park walk on at least two occasions.

Tom Doyle had given two presentations on volkssporting to the Middleton Kiwanis and the teachers at the Middleton Hamilton Middle School during an in-service day.

Russ C. indicated that an announcement for the Elver Park walk is also on the Community Bulletin Board on Channel 12. The Elver Park walk was also listed in the *State Journal*, the *Capital Times*, and some smaller publications.

Vice President's Report (Ed Reid)

There was no report.

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Secretary's Report (Karen Reger)

Karen and Russ C. will probably be late (if making it at all) for the next Board meeting so someone else will have to take the minutes.

Treasurer's Report (Russ Crane)

The balance at the last Board meeting on May 9 was \$1,854.45. Since that time, income has totaled \$2,132.00 and expenses have totaled \$1,157.73. The current balance is \$2,828.73. Of this amount, \$1,200.00 is committed for the fall bus trip, leaving an uncommitted balance of \$1,628.72.

Next Membership Meeting (Tom M.)

The next membership meeting will be on August 8 at 6:30 p.m. No location has been determined; a suggestion was made that a short walk be held followed by a stop at an ice cream shop.

Next Board Meeting (Tom M.)

The next Board meeting will be on July 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lakeview Branch Library.

Upcoming Walking Events (Tom M.)

The next club walk will be held this Saturday, June 16, at Elver Park. There are volunteers to flag the course early Saturday morning.

The Sugar River Trail walk will be on July 21. Remember to bring your patches for the third star.

Fall Color Bus Trip (Tom D.)

The minimum number of people (25) have signed up so this trip will be held. There is a price break for 35 participants so hopefully a few more will decide to go. Final details will be in the next newsletter. A few small adjustments have had to be made from the original itinerary.

Alaskan Trip (Tom D.)

This was a great trip, and all the travel arrangements went perfectly, no glitches at all. They did ten walks, which were great, with no rain. The walkers themselves sanctioned three walks, and for the three there was a total of 66 walkers. The fee for these walks was \$4.00, as there was to be no expense to the club. A motion was made that of the surplus, \$75.00 be given to the AVA to help out our Regional Director, Bruce Dewey, so he doesn't have to kiss the burro at the convention. This motion was approved. The club has already made a donation of \$100.00 for this endeavor.

Regarding the convention, Karen indicated that she has gotten some state maps and some Oscar Mayer wiener whistles to pass out at the convention. Tom Doyle and Ed Reid will work on a state basket for the silent auction at the convention.

Door Prize (Tom M.)

Since the Elver Park walk is on National Vinegar Day, Russ C. has bought a bottle of fine vinegar to be a door prize on that day.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

PROGRAM

The speaker for the evening was Bruce Chevis, who recently retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in the State Parks System. He and his wife are avid hikers, hiking in most of the western national parks and Great Smoky Mountains National Park, as well as in Germany and northern Italy.

He had brought along various brochures on the state park system and trails. One of the newest state trails is the Badger State Trail from Madison to Freeport, Illinois. In the future, the section from Madison to Paoli will be blacktopped. There are 42 state trails, comprising 1,650 miles. There are 78 potential corridors identified for inclusion in the state trails network plan. The Elroy-Sparta state trail was the first rails-to-trails endeavor, opening in 1968.

Benefits of trails: for transportation (40% of all car trips are two miles or less), a positive contribution to the economy, better air quality, enhances the way of life within a community.

Bruce recommended Yellowstone Lake State Park for having a walk event, as well as Wyalusing in the fall. And the Ice Age Trail was also recommended.

As Bruce was a member of the Firewood Team dealing with the threat of emerald ash borer infestation, the question was asked as to whether any have been found in Wisconsin. As of this time, there have been no reports of it appearing in Wisconsin. The state is leading the nation in the fight against it. At present, no one can bring in firewood from 50 miles away.

The program ended at 7:28 p.m.