

December 21st Meeting  
6pm start

Present: Julie Hoel, Travis Downing, Scott Lind, Dave Maxwell, AJ Man, Luke Zahm  
Staff: Maggie Mahnke, Jason Leis, Jackie Yocum, Barb Sarnowski, Joel Charles, Bill Quackenbush. Online: Reggie Nelson

Call to order: 6pm, quorum

Motion to approve agenda (Downing motions, Maxwell seconds)

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Public Posting Compliance: Yocum confirms

Approval of Minutes:

Downing motions, Zahm Seconds

Friends of the KVR Update:

Harvey Potter presents- introduction

Holiday Happening was successful, netted \$2100  
Year-end appeal has been made and is attracting new members and dollars

Informational/Discussion Items:

Buggies on Old 131 Trail: Barb Sarnowski- noticed horseshoes on the paved trail; Zahm reports having seen horse and buggy on Old 131; asked about Horse and Buggies off trail, having seen some in the Billings Creek Valley to trout fish.

Maxwell: would a sign prevent horses and buggies on the KVR in a place where they don't belong?

Lind: Would talking to the Elders be a better solution than creating a sign?

Leis: We talked to the parents of one of the underage Amish community members, and that was very effective.

Hoel: Encouraging the Amish members using the KVR, would approaching the communities be a better exercise to make them feel welcome?

Leis: In the Weister Creek Valley, Amish were consulted and asked to place hitching rails in the proper places- they still haven't been put in and have been hitching to various places in the valley area.

Hoel: Have we had repeat offenders?

Leis: We're not exactly sure, but likely the same people throughout.

Maxwell: Have Land Management create a recommendation for the KVR Board.

Update on Lisney Road Land Trade:

Leis: Cites August 18th, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Vernell Vesbach purchased the house on Lisney Road in June/July  
Reserve owns inside corner of property, on which a driveway was placed a long time ago.

Leis highlights the areas to be traded.

August 2022 meeting minutes include removal of willow tree, collapsing of cistern, fixing of driveway.

All has been bulldozed.

Vesbach indicated that a mistake was made.

Scott Walter was the acting ED at the time when this came through and subsequent ED didn't follow up on the motion.

No assessments have been made.

General consensus: it fell between the cracks.

Charles: What steps need to be taken to get to a decision?

Leis: Reserve can trade land, only if it is of equal or greater value.

Lind: Let's get the land trade done as soon as possible.

Charles: Get the land assessed, get the land trade done.

Vesbach: Can the project move forward to complete a campground for 10 spaces.

Leis: We can't move dirt until we have done an archeological survey.

Reserve will push through with an assessor and get it in front of the Governor right away.

DOT Request Related to 2026 work on culverts:

300' Tube runs under the existing 131. Dot plans include an apron that slows down the water flow but is placed outside of the Hwy right of way.

Leis: Now would be a good time to get down there to see if water had blown out the valley from the 2018 flood.

Leis: DOT is doing their due diligence with archeology and environmental.

Lind: Would like to see the final drawings and plans before the project moves forward- to see the impacts and potential issues. If this project is completely designed and ready to dig, then fine, but if the plan changes and we give permission NOW, we don't want to be held liable for allowing changes to take place without the final details.

Leis: I'll notify them about the Boards feelings, and we'll

Winter festival Update

Yocum:

Winter Festival planning is coming along  
Posters available for display  
Snow and no snow plans are in place  
Lions Club Chili Contest is also in place

Kickapoo Bird Habitat Initiative Update:

Leis: Initiative secured an 8k grant, so funding isn't the issue, but more staff time to help with the project.

Hoel: What help do they need:

Leis: They need help with brochures, training volunteers to do bird surveys, developing baselines for samples, comparative coordination between MVC, Wildcat State Park, Private landowners in the Valley.

Schultz: Staff time requested is mainly to attend meetings.

Lind: Great initiative, KVR should support. If they are (in the future)

## Education and Tourism:

Schultz: Education programs coming up- numbers are too low for classes at the moment. Youth Ski Club is open for registration. 5 currently enrolled.

Body ecology (dance movement)

Wisconsin Master Naturalist Training for August and September to be held on the Reserve this year.

Summer camp registration Feb. 1st. Asked for registration software, Board asked that the website be updated instead. All websites must be approved by Exec Director.

Collaborating for Adult Summer Camp- Yocum and Schultz hosting a session on wayfinding, map reading, etc. Long weekend program. June 2024.

Hosting a "Forest Bathing" program at the KVR- doesn't feel like it should be part of the KVR Education program. Instead offered a commercial use agreement, and lease of the space.

## Finance Meeting:

Zahm:

Finance Committee met to discuss securing bids for the maintenance bay heaters. Upcoming meeting with DOA budget analysts. Groomer and UTV are ready to go- all we need is snow. Next meeting on January 9th at 9 am.

## Law Enforcement Update:

Lots of activity during gun deer season, Chris worked a lot of the season: license checking, reports of lost gun in the woods \*FOUND\*, also found shotgun! That was returned to the owner. Chris revising policy during Winter Months

## Future Topics:

Offering registered members of the Ho Chunk Nation free access passes to create community.

Closed Session: 6:50. Pursuant to Employment, Compensation, etc







