

**DAIRYLAND WALKERS BIMONTHLY MEETING
MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY
SEPTEMBER 28, 2005**

Officers Present: Tom and LaVonne McCrill (Co-Presidents); Ron Moore (Vice President); Russ Crane (Treasurer); Karen Reger (Secretary); Barb Borde (Member at Large)

In Attendance: 24

Meeting

The meeting began at 6:35 p.m. Two people were attending a club meeting for the first time.

Secretary's Report (Karen Reger)

The minutes from the last membership meeting on July 13 were accepted.

Treasurer's Report (Russ Crane)

The balance at the last Board meeting on September 14 was \$2,730.63. Since that time, there has been \$141.00 in income (\$96.00 from year-rounds and seasonals, \$20.00 from the sale of frequent walker coupons, and \$25.00 from sales). There were no expenses in that period of time. The present balance is \$2,871.63.

Membership/Change in Dues Structure (Tom Doyle)

The present fee structure for membership is \$7.00 for an individual and \$10.00 for a family. At the last Board meeting, it was decided to increase dues and have a membership fee of \$12.00 for each address. The kick-off date is January 1, 2006, and renewals after that date will be for the amount of \$12.00.

Newsletter (Tom McCrill)

Names of new members were published in the last newsletter. We are one of the few clubs that are gaining members.

Calendar Events (Tom McCrill)

Historic Soldiers Home Walk – Milwaukee

Workers are needed for this event on October 8. Don Suloff will be there early but has to leave at 10:30. People from the Soldiers Home Foundation will take care of the checkpoints. Anyone willing to help at the registration table should let Tom M. know and he will inform Don.

Historic Mineral Point Walk

For prewalk information, contact Bruce Dewey. Mary Graber still needs help on the day of the event (October 15).

Walk and Eat Gang - Devil's Lake Walk

This will be the last Walk and Eat Gang event for this year, on October 20. Entering by the north entrance, meet at the main building at 10:15, walk at 10:30.

(over)

Governor Nelson State Park Walk

This will be held on October 21. Russ Crane and Tom McCrill will lead two groups, and Ed Reid volunteered to lead the fast paced 10K.

Next Membership Meeting (Tom McCrill.)

We are unable to use the space at Hilldale Mall that we have used for the past several years. The meeting will therefore be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Spaight Street on December 4. The East Side walk goes by it. There is an adjacent parking lot. The entrance is on the side of the building.

As in the past, Board members will bring chili, drinks, and table service, and everyone else can bring salads, desserts, etc. The website and a future newsletter will have more details.

Next Board Meeting (Tom McCrill)

The next Board meeting will be held on November 9 at the Middleton Library, and is open to all club members.

Walk a Week (Tom McCrill)

The Tuesday evening walks ended yesterday for the season. The possibility of having a morning walk one day a week is being looked into by LaVonne McCrill and Barb Borde. Anyone interested in helping with this program should contact them. These walks could include a 5K option.

European Trip (Barb Borde)

The deposit of \$400.00 is due by November 1. Twenty-five people have expressed an interest, and of those, 13 have signed up so far.

Niagara Falls Bus Trip (Tom Doyle)

This will be from June 22-29, and the deposit will be \$150.00.

Election of Officers for 2006 (Tom Doyle)

The election is being held earlier than usual due to not having a membership meeting in June because of the national convention, and other meetings thereafter being out of synch. Those running with no opposition and their offices are:

Tom and LaVonne McCrill – Co-Presidents

Ron Moore – Vice President

Secretary – Karen Reger

Treasurer – Russ Crane. Russ indicated he would perform the duties one more year but would really like to either share the duties or break in someone new. He is busy with the website and other things.

Two people ran for Member at Large – Barb Borde and June Doyle. Barb retained her seat on the Board.

Recognition (Tom Doyle and Tom McCrill)

Congratulations were given to Ed Reide on his completion of the 50 state and 51 capitol programs. He is currently working on five special program books. He recently returned from Alaska, and will soon be going to Nova Scotia.

Break (at 7:00 p.m.)

To celebrate Ed's achievement, the McCrills had brought a cake showing the 50 states, which was enjoyed by all.

Meeting (resuming at 7:08 p.m.)

National Volkssport Month (Russ Crane)

October is National Volkssport Month, and Russ indicated that he has 25 AVA patches which he will have available for \$3.00 at the walks in October.

Highway Cleanup (Tom Doyle)

The next highway cleanup will be on October 30, starting from the usual place, Nora's II.

Program

Tom Doyle introduced Sharon Bloodgood, the speaker for the evening, who is a member of the Dairyland Walkers and a past president of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation of Wisconsin. She has done a wealth of walks, including completing the Appalachian Trail over a period of seven years. The longest continuous hiking period was 30 days. The longest distance hiked in one day was 18 miles; the average was 10-11 miles a day. Her pack at that time weighed 40-45 pounds, but since then she has gone to an ultra-light backpack, a lighter tent, and lighter gear.

How do we know if people want to walk, and where? There is not a lot of information about that. She indicated that people who do silent sports like walking and hiking tend to be silent politically. Other groups tend to be very organized and very verbal, with a lot of statistics which show them in a good light. Quiet recreation enthusiasts should mention to merchants (restaurants, gas stations) that they are in that area to do walks, showing that walkers are a benefit to a community.. Make sure that officials are aware that walking is important – thank them for walking areas via letters or emails. Encourage your friends and family to walk.

The program ended at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by Karen Reger, Secretary