

# Over 2 million visitors and 21 years of fun!

## Friends of the Fox River Trail News for

### November 2020

www.FriendsFRT.org

### Quarterly meeting notes 10/22/2020

Attendance: Cliff Wall, Betty Wall, Morgan Fuller, Mark Ernst, Meg Deem, Amanda Young, Nikki Hilker, Becky Nyberg, Ken Nyberg

### 2021 officer election:

The following people were elected to 2021 Friends FRT Board:

President: Trevor Fuller

Vice President: Morgan Fuller

Treasurer: Ken Nyberg Co-Treasurer: Amie Fruzen Secretary: Becky Nyberg

The Friends of the FRT would like to extend our gratitude to Cliff and Betty Wall for the years of service to the group as the President and Vice President. We will do our best to keep their wonderful legacy alive into the future.

#### **Treasurer's report:**

First 3 quarters January-Sept, 2020 Income \$590.59 Expenses \$35.00 Savings \$2502.90 Checking \$924.48 Total \$3426.57

#### **Brown County Parks update:**

The use of the FRT has more than doubled during the pandemic. Counters along the trail show a large increase starting in March 2020.

Early in the Spring, the Wis DNR decided to suspend the collection of all entrance and user fees for Wis Park properties. The word about that quickly spread through the community. The fees were re-instated a few months later but word did not spread as fast. When Brown County Trail Rangers stop bicyclists and ask to see a trail pass, most riders have not purchased one because they think they are still suspended. Thus, the Trail Pass revenue that Brown County Parks uses for trail maintenance, is way down in 2020 over 2019.

Please spread the word that Trail Passes are again required in 2020 for those who use wheels on the trail. The revenue generated helps maintain the trail. Also note that anyone can buy a pass to help out. Even if they are only walking the dog on the trail. To purchase of passes go to: <a href="https://www.browncountywi.gov/community/parks-department/general-information/purchase-pass/">https://www.browncountywi.gov/community/parks-department/general-information/purchase-pass/</a>

Brown County Parks will have a trial run with a limited number of electronic pay stations starting soon. If successful, more stations will be rolled out in 2021. Look for them along the FRT at Voyager Park and Porlier St.

#### **Buckthorn removal:**

Cliff Wall reported that he and a friend have been working to remove buckthorn along the trail in Allouez. Cliff has a Boy Scout Troop from De Pere helping him on Saturday October 24, 2020 with a big clean up near Heritage Hill State Park and the FRT.

Cliff can always use an extra pair of hands when clearing buckthorn. If you want to help, send him a text message at 920-370-3400.

Cliff sent these links to buckthorn removal resources:

http://www.removebadplants.com/removal-tips/

https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0145/8808/4272/files/A3924-02.pdf

https://fmr.org/conservation-updates/buckthorn-how-can-shrub-be-so-harmful