

Friends of the Black River Forest Update, 6/8/18

FBRF just finished a week long (and a LONG week) court case against the DNR for granting a Wetland Permit to Kohler that didn't contain enough accurate information for the public to adequately respond to at public hearings held in the past 2 years. There was lots of testimony from our expert witnesses as well as Kohler's. Mountains of paperwork, exhibits and maps were presented to the Administrative Law Judge, Mark Kaiser. His decision will be made in September.

Our 2nd challenge to the DNR involves their Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as being inaccurate and incomplete, as well. This will be viewed/reviewed by the judge as well, using the testimony he received this past week.

The week ended yesterday with a Public Comment session that lasted from 9 til 1 p.m. It was heartening to hear the many supporters who want to save the land from destruction for a golf course none of us can afford to play on. Of course, Kohler had their 'economic benefits folks' testify as well. Wisconsin Public Radio was there on Friday. See their article: <https://www.wpr.org/opponents-supporters-spend-hours-debating-kohler-wetlands-permit> I made some comments there, too.

Last week was very busy for us. We had volunteers distribute newsletters to 800 Town of Wilson residents. We passed out 500 flyers to all the Park's FREE DAY visitors (who would take them), and we put up an 8 foot banner on the corner of Moening Rd. and County Rd. V for all the Park visitors to see. It simply says: www.savekohlerandrae.com We are hoping they will visit the site and find out what is happening that will affect their future camping experiences if this golf course is approved. It also has a fundraising button.

On Sunday we had an "Honor the Earth" ceremony in the Park near the 5 acres the DNR is giving to Kohler. The 40 or so people who attended, sang along with the Ragin' Grannies, shared their stories regarding the Park, and read poetry they brought along for the occasion. It was quite nice! Here is the website for one of their beautiful songs, "Water is Life": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzPjkG3akrc>

As always, if you have a few extra bucks burning a hole in your pocket, please send it our way, as we will be doing another legal challenge to the DNR for giving away of 5 acres of Kohler-Andrae State Park to the Kohler Co. for their maintenance/chemical sheds, road and parking lot.

If you have any questions, please call me at 920-457-0525.

Thanks for all your continuing support and prayers . . . Keep spreading the word on Facebook, too.