



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2018
Blackman Township Hall
1991 West Parnall Road, Jackson, MI

The Meeting was called to order by Kenny Price at 7:09 PM.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Kay Brown, Jon Hoyle, Dan Kaser, Kurt LaFrance, Kenny Price, Jack Ripstra, Kurt Rudolph, Deb Snell, Benji Ward

Absent: John Minar, Don Nelson, Pam Brown

Guests: none

AGENDA REVIEW:

Motion to accept agenda: Kurt LaFrance

Second: Jack Ripstra

Approve: all

MINUTES:

Motion to accept minutes from February as amended to correct Membership Report striking "about 52%": Kurt LaFrance

Second: Dan Kaser

Approve: all

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

There were 124 members as of March 13. Eighty-six of those have paid for 2018, with the remaining 38 unpaid so far. Three paid at the Quiet Water Symposium. Marilou Sherman is a new member, whose continuous membership had lapsed. Andrew Hushes is a new member at the Sponsor level. Kenny and Jon brought their membership up to date as of the meeting.

We have a total of 223 waivers that were completed in 2017 consisting of volunteers, paddlers and those who assisted with the clean-up.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Statements were emailed to the board for their review, no discussion. We are \$3565 up compared to being up \$1270 as of this time last year. Our Liability Insurance is up. A motion was made to pay the amount due which is \$40 over budget was made by Kurt LaFrance, seconded by Jon and approved by all.

RIVERMASTER'S REPORT:

No report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Kenny noted that the Men's Garden Club is hosting a series of meetings to cover the Jackson, Lenawee, Washtenaw Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (JLW CISMA). Information on this was emailed to the board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Safety Deposit Box:** There is not much kept in the Safety Deposit box. It was suggested that a fire proof box to be mounted in the GREAT building to store these items. A motion was made to allow Jack spend up to \$120 to purchase a fire proof box by Kurt LaFrance, seconded by Benji Ward and approved by all.
- **Second Annual Youth Outdoor Day on May 12, 2018:** Trail Life Troop 317 requested our participation at their May Youth Outdoor Day to be held at Rod Mills Park. After some discussion, it was decided that due to a lack of resources our participation will not be feasible. Deb Snell will send our regrets.
- **Annual Dinner:** The board discussed the agenda for the meeting.
- **Awards at Dinner:** The board discussed the awards to be provided at the Annual Dinner meeting, especially donor recognition (Pole Barn gifts and Other gifts)
- **Trip Sign-up Sheet:** The board was requested to sign up for spots on the 2018 Trip Sheet.
- **Wild Apricot:** This software tool was discussed again and remains on hold. The cost is \$35/month to manage up to 250 contacts. Above that level the cost is \$70/month. Our contact list is right around the 250 level. Kenny is still working to understand all of the benefits we would receive using Wild Apricot.
- **Krupa's Boat Mart Donation:** Kurpa's Boat Mart is looking to donate some paddles of a little shorter length. We will ask Krupa's to come to the August clinic on Vandercook Lake.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Communication/Newsletter: Deb Snell is working to distribute GREAT Event calendars around the community (Jackson College, Krupa's, etc.). She has added some new sites and reduced the number of copies at other locations. She has also forwarded electronic communications that have come to GREAT. A copy of the Mott Foundation "Freshwater Future Grant Program" was circulated at the meeting.

Finance: There was discussion of doing fundraising through Facebook, Amazon Smile, PayPal, etc.

Activities & Calendar:

April Paddle (5/15): 127 to Vandercook Lake, Don could use some held to clean the area up.

Earth Day (5/22): Spots are filed in.

Environmental Education & Advocacy: no report

Annual Clean-up: no report.

Nominations: no report

GREAT Equipment: Again, noted the Krupa donation

River Debris Removal: There was discussion of applying for a grant to remove a log jam just South of Ella Sharp Park at the Probert Road bridge.

GREAT Land: no report

GREAT Building: Jack noted that solar lighting is on order and we will plan to install in April.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

GR Jackson County Paddle Trail Map & Booklet: no report

Water Trail: More meetings have been held and applications for a grant to fund four Put-in/Take-out locations. This will not happen this year.

RELATED GROUPS:

Watershed Alliance: There was some discussion of the Little Bend Piggery in Concord Township and the Water Trail.

Earth Day: The Jackson County Conservation district is taking the lead on this.

Jackson Conservation District: The Jackson County Conservation district has hired a new person.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Kurt LaFrance

Second: Jack Ripstra

Approve: all

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM. The next Meeting will be held April 11, 2018 at the Summit Township Hall at 7:00 PM.

Kurt Rudolph, Recorder of Minutes

The mission of GREAT is to promote the protection of the Grand River Watershed through activities and educational programs,