



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 09, 2018
Blackman Township Hall
1990 West Parnall Road, Jackson, MI

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:09 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Jon Hoyle, Kurt LaFrance, John Minar, Don Nelson, Kenny Price, Jack Ripstra, Kurt Rudolph and Benji Ward

Absent: Kay Brown, Pam Brown, Dan Kaser and Deb Snell

Guest: none

AGENDA REVIEW:

Motion to accept amended agenda: Jack Ripstra

Second: Pam Brown

Approve: all

MINUTES:

Motion to accept minutes from April: Kurt Rudolph

Second: Jack Ripstra

Approve: all

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

There was one new membership and several existing members have paid. No further report.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Statements had been emailed to the board for their review, no discussion. Jack noted that we are \$4000 up compared to this time last year.

RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:

Cutting for the June outing will be starting in a week or so, weather permitting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT/DISCUSSIONS ITEMS:

- After some discussion about the birds seen during the April trip and it has been determined that there is an Osprey nest on the top of the Cell tower off Hague Ave. Thanks to John Minard's drone photos and movies from that outing. There is also an Eagle living near Browns Lake somewhere and was spotted 'fishing' in Vandercook lake when the first paddlers entered the lake. It was suggested that GREAT put up an Osprey Pole on our land to encourage a nesting. More research is needed.
- The 2018 goals have been set to create a fund raising program, continue GREAT's land plan and secure software for managing our operations and web site. Don Nelson moved that we accept these goals and Jack Ripstra seconded the motion, approved by all.
- The April paddle went off well. There were 16 adults, 6 board members and one child for a total of 23. The May paddle is covered, the activities sign up sheet is being passed around. Kenny did mention that in future paddles we need more people to shuttle. He also mentioned that the April paddles have been a hit or miss proposition the past several years and maybe we should just have Earth Day be our only April event or maybe have our outings on a lake. Kenny said he would be sending around an email discussing this further.
- Kenny is looking for help to do a clean up at the Cascade ponds 10-12 on May 26th.
- There were some comments about the Earth Day event. Where we were set up this year we were close to the entertainment and it was loud. Also, we need more small children PFD's. and seat

cushions

• **Standing Committees:**

Communication/Newsletter: Newsletter articles due May 15th.

Finances: Covered previously.

Activities & Calendar: Covered previously.

Education & Advocacy: No report.

Annual Cleanup: No report.

Nominations: No report.

GREAT Equipment Inventory: No report.

River Debris Removal: No report.

GREAT land: The lights and solar components have arrived, Jack is working with contractor.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Grand River Trail Map and Booklet: No report.

Water Trail: The Master Plan put together with the UGRWA, GREAT, Jackson County, Region II and others proposed 4 boat launch sites within the City of Jackson with plans and costs. The City did there own analysis and made dramatic changes to what we had proposed and the cost skyrocketed to 1.8 million dollars. At this time the City is not supporting the launches.

RELATED GROUPS:

Watershed Alliance: Covered previously.

JAOC: no report.

JCCD: no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Don Nelson

Second: Kurt Rudolph

Approve: all

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 P.M.

The next monthly meeting will be June 13th, 2018 at the Summit Township Hall at 7:00 P.M.,

Don Nelson, Recorder of Minutes

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