



BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
February 13, 2019  
Summit Township Hall  
2121 Ferguson Road, Jackson, MI

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:06 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Jon Hoyle, Dan Kaser, Kenny Price, Jack Ripstra, Kurt Rudolph, Deb Snell and Benji Ward

**Absent:** Kay Brown, Kurt LaFrance, John Minar, Don Nelson

**Guest:** Andrew Hughes

**AGENDA REVIEW:**

Kenny offered the agenda for the meeting. A motion to accept the agenda presented was made by Jack Ripstra.

Second: Dan Kaser

Approve: all

**MINUTES:**

The January Meeting Minutes were distributed on January 14 via email. A motion to accept the minutes as submitted was made by Deb Snell.

Second: Dan Kaser

Approve: all

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

Kenny introduced Andrew Hughes to the board. Andrew is interested in joining the board. Andrew described himself as someone who has an interest in helping to make the Grand River great. He is married with two boys. The family live on Gillets Lake and enjoy kayaking, fishing, & boating. He and his wife of 14 years work at Adient, the spin-off of the Johnson Controls seating division in Plymouth.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

We have 116 memberships, 47 already paid and 1 new. Deb reported that some lapsed members have been removed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Statements had been emailed to the board for their review. Jack highlighted some items: we are \$3,000 behind due to the membership letter going out later than last year. The Profit / Loss report shows a \$550 shortfall for the month.

**RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:**

There was no report. However, it was noted that the Winter Stone Fly Hunt was canceled due to the extreme cold weather resulting in no open water for the Stone Flies to exit from.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT/DISCUSSIONS ITEMS:**

- Quiet Water Symposium – The scheduled date is March 2. Kenny read off the coverage assignments for the booth and will email the assignment time schedule to the board with phone numbers to facilitate access.
- New Kayaks - were discussed. The board agreed to form an Ad Hoc Committee of Jack Ripstra, Jon Hoyle, Dan Kaser, Kenny Price and Andrew Hughes to look at the procurement for upgrading our 12 kayaks to something more uniform that would allow for quicker distribution at paddles. The committee will consider what style of thermoplastic kayaks to obtain. Consideration will be given to working with Quiet World Sports to procure newer used equipment and allowing QWS to replace their old equipment.
- 2019 Officers – The board agreed to maintain the following slate of offices for 2019: President – Kenny Price, VP – Kurt LaFrance, Treasurer - Jack Ripstra, and Secretary - Deb Snell offered at the last meeting for voting at the Annual Meeting. Kenny indicated that this is his last year as President. The Rivermaster is currently open at this time. There was some discussion about how to fill it.
- Newsletter – It was noted that Deb Snell will be the contact point with Pam in the development of the Newsletter. The next Newsletter will go out next week. Kenny stated that the deadline for articles needs to be advanced by 8 days and that each board member needs to contribute articles. This means that the next deadline is April 7. Ideally, board members should write articles and submit them to Deb to hold in reserve to select as space allows.
- Annual Dinner – The Annual Dinner is on March 13 at Gene Davis and Sons Banquet & Convention Center. Deb will create the Agenda, and Ballots. There was discussion of a “Make it Happen Award.”
- Wild Apricot - There was meeting prior to the board meeting to work on the website. Some material has already been migrated into Wild Apricot such as the membership list and some emails and invitations have been generated through the software. There will be another website development meeting on Wednesday, February 20 at Blackman Twp Hall at 7PM.

## **Standing Committees:**

**Communication/Newsletter:** Deb passed on an email from Betty Desbiens. Betty has expressed an interest in supporting GREAT in the development of a Picnic Pavilion and launch site at the GREAT property. Deb is having problems getting a hold of Jack Lapinski about which printer to use.

**Finances:** No report.

**Activities & Calendar:** No report.

**Education & Advocacy:** Deb is still writing articles

**Annual Cleanup:** No report.

**Nominations:** see above.

**GREAT Equipment Inventory:** No report.

**River Debris Removal:** No report.

**GREAT land:** The Invasive Species removal was a success in spite of the cold.

## **AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Grand River Trail Map and Booklet:** No report.

**Water Trail:** No report.

**RELATED GROUPS:**

**Watershed Alliance:** No report.

**JAOC:** no report.

**JCCD:** no report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Kenny Price

Second: Kurt Rudolph

Approve: all

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

The next monthly meeting will be the Annual Meeting on March 13, 2019 at Gene at 7:00 P.M.,

There was some post meeting discussion of the Jackson County Parks MDNR Trust Fund Grant application for Kayak launch site development at Little Wolf Lake and Vandercook Lake as part of the Grand River Water Trail development. There was a proposed design of the Vandercook Lake on display at the Summit Township Hall.

Kurt Rudolph, Recorder of Minutes

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