



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2019
Blackman Township Hall
1990 West Parnall Road, Jackson, MI

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

ATTENDANCE:

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

Absent: Don Nelson

Guest: none

AGENDA REVIEW:

Kenny wanted to add a discussion of Committee Roles to the agenda, motion to accept amended agenda:

Jack Ripstra

Second: Kurt LaFrance

Approve: all

MINUTES:

A few corrections to the November Membership Report were requested. A motion to accept amended minutes: Jack Ripstra

Second: Dan Kaser

Approve: all

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

We have 132 memberships, 112 paid and 20 unpaid.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Statements had been emailed to the board for their review. Jack highlighted some items: ~\$4,800 net positive status at year end, and donations in memory of Andy Lafaive and \$1000 by ITC. There was no discussion.

RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:

Jack noted that he paddled from 127 and High to RA Greene Park with no real problem. The River gauge was at 10.6'.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT/DISCUSSIONS ITEMS:

- Quiet Water Symposium – The scheduled date is March 2. There are plans to bring the tables of groups representing the Grand River together. Kenny requested volunteers to be at the GREAT table and board members quickly signed up.
- Paddle and Meeting Schedules were distributed by email and paper copies at the meeting. The board meeting dates for September and October were set for the first Wednesday to accommodate the Saturday, September 7 Clean up and Sunday, October 6 paddle.
- 2019 Officers – The board nominated the following slate of offices for 2019: President – Kenny Price, VP – Kurt LaFrance, Treasurer - Jack Ripstra, and Secretary - Deb Snell
- Annual Dinner – There was a discussion regarding the location for the Annual Dinner and potential speaker. There will be further investigation of the location with Steaks Eatery, Gene Davis and Knights Steak House under consideration. There was a consensus opinion that a speaker from the Nature Conservancy would be a good option.

- Newsletter – The proposed dates for the Newsletter were set to be February 1, May 1, July 1, and October 1. The due date for articles is the middle of the month prior. This creates a crunch for the first Newsletter. Kenny obtained commitments from board members to get articles in ASAP.
- Invasive Species Work – It was noted that the rescheduled Invasive Species Work Party will be on January 26.
- Wild Apricot - There was meeting prior to the board meeting to look at the site. There will be another meeting on Wednesday, January 16 at Blackman Twp Hall.

Standing Committees:

Communication/Newsletter: Deb passed a card from Betty Desbiens that came with \$400. The Newsletter covered earlier.

Finances: Kurt noted that there was an audit in December.

Activities & Calendar: No report.

Education & Advocacy: No report.

Annual Cleanup: No report.

Nominations: see above.

GREAT Equipment Inventory: It was recommended that the GREAT laptop be replaced within 12-24 months.

River Debris Removal: No report.

GREAT land: No report.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Grand River Trail Map and Booklet: No report.

Water Trail: No report.

RELATED GROUPS:

Watershed Alliance: Meetings are still going on.

JAOC: no report.

JCCD: no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Benji Ward

Second: Kurt Rudolph

Approve: all

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

The next monthly meeting will be February 9, 2019 at Summit Township Hall at 7:00 P.M.,

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.