



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 6, 2020
Summit Township Hall
2121 Ferguson Rd, Jackson, MI

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:16 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Kenny Price, Kurt LaFrance, Jack Ripstra, Deb Snell, Kay Brown, Cathy Jehnzen, John Minar, Kurt Rudolph, and Benji Ward

Absent:, Jon Hoyle, Dan Kaser, and Jeff Lolkus

Guest:

AGENDA REVIEW:

There was a motion to accept the emailed agenda as amended by Jack Ripstra.

Second: Cathy Jehnzen

Approve: all

MINUTES:

There was a motion to accept the emailed January minutes as amended by Kurt Rudolph

Second: Jack Ripstra

Approve: all

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Deb reported that we ended 2019 with 115 members. So far for 2020 there are 16 renewals and 2 new paid membership. The membership renewal letter has been sent out. Jack and Deb will review the current Access database and look at maintaining it for 6 months so that we are sure Wild Apricot will fulfill all of GREAT's need for past data prior to abandoning it.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Balance Sheet, Budget Comparison and Profit & Loss reports were emailed out. Jack reported that at the end of January there were assets of \$15,552.37. He noted that we ended January \$153.53 to the good, which is better than last year at this time.

RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:

Jack reported that there was a meeting with Jackson County Parks and Jack & Dan will provide some training for the Parks department on the use of chain saws in the river. There will also be another meeting at 5:30 PM on February 25 at Blackman Township to review the Canary Lane Park MDNR Trust Fund Grant Application.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Kenny had the following discussion items:

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- GREAT River Trails Maps – Jack will send Kurt a list of maps needed.
- 2020 Annual Dinner – The Annual Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday March 11 at the Gene Davis Conference Center. The speaker will be MDNR Conservation Officer Chris Reynolds.
- Wild Apricot – The Wild Apricot web site is up and running. There are concerns about reserving the boats using the process.
- GREAT Board Committees – Deb asked that members to review the committee assignment sheet and she will distribute at the next meeting.
- 2020 Earth Day – This event will be held on May 25 at the Urban Fishery Pond at Cascades Park.
- Quiet Adventure Symposium 2020 – Slots were filled to staff the GREAT booth at QAS 2020.

- GREAT CPA Jeff Gund – A sympathy card was passed around for the death of his wife.
- Vehicle & Event Signage – There was discussion of the purchase of (2) plastic sandwich board signs and (8-10) magnetic vehicle (trailer hauler & shuttle) signs.
- Membership Survey – Benji suggested that the membership be surveyed. In order to improve our communication and participation. He will develop some ideas for discussion at a future meeting.

Standing Committees:

Communication/Newsletter: Deb circulated some thank you cards for signature. The Newsletter will go to Pam this weekend and it should be out on time. The May 15 Newsletter articles are due on April 30. Deb noted that the Snell family will donate a more up to date laptop after the one from the Non Profit Network was found to be dated.

Finances: No report.

Activities & Calendar: No report.

Education & Advocacy: No report.

Annual Cleanup: No report.

Nominations: No report.

GREAT Equipment: One canoe was fixed and one still needs some repaired.

River Debris Removal: No report.

GREAT land and building: We are still waiting for the new building signage.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Water Trail: No report.

Grand River Trail Map and Booklet: on hold.

RELATED GROUPS:

Watershed Council: No report.

Earth Day: No report.

JCCD:. No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Vests are still needed for Cathy and Jeff.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43.

The next monthly meeting will be March 4, 2020 at Blackman 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.