



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 6, 2020
Virtual Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:21 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Kenny Price, Kurt LaFrance, Jack Ripstra, Kay Brown, Cathy Jehzen, Dan Kaser, John Minar, and Benji Ward

Absent:, Jon Hoyle, Deb Snell, Kurt Rudolph, and Jeff Lolkus

Guest: None

AGENDA REVIEW:

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

Second: Cathy Jehzen

Approve: all

MINUTES:

There was a motion to accept the emailed March minutes by Dan Kaser

Second: Benji Ward

Approve: all

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Jack reported we are down 20 paying members since this time last year. Deb Snell will send another e-mail asking people to renew.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Jack reported while we're down 20 paying members, a generous donation of \$1,000 from a member puts us ahead of budget. We have approximately \$17,700 in available funds. Reports were e-mailed to the board.

RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:

We'll likely need to do some cutting prior to the next paddle, hopefully in June. The river will likely be low for the June paddle. The county drain commissioner is investigating the cost for a contractor to clear the river from Ella Sharp Park to US-127.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Kenny had the following discussion items:

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Wild Apricot – Wild Apricot is working well so far.
- Next Newsletter – Newsletter assignments were sent out by Deb Snell. Board members will work on their assigned items and submit their articles.
- GREAT Insurance Policy – Kay Brown has worked with another insurance agent and found new policies with lower premiums. Details were e-mailed to the board. The policies would have better coverage than our existing policies. Dan Kaser made a motion to switch to the new insurance policies with Jack Ripstra's support. The motion carried.
- June Paddle – Can we social distance during a paddle? Likely on the river is ok, but what about distributing waivers, shuttling, assisting with life jackets, getting in and out of boats, etc. A lot

will depend on the government's orders, e.g. banning gatherings more than 10 people.

- June Mystery Paddle – No shuttle is involved with this paddle, but people may still need help getting people in/out of boats. In interest of the public safety, Dan Kaser moved that we cancel both June paddles, supported by Jack Ripstra and the motion carried.
- Money/ Membership/ Donors – Please keep an eye out for new members and donors.
- New Signs – Cathy Jehnzen got a quote for new signs that can be used to direct people to our paddle locations and identify the shuttle vehicles. She will follow up with more information next month.

Standing Committees:

Communication/Newsletter: No report.

Finances: No report.

Activities & Calendar: No report.

Education & Advocacy: No report.

Annual Cleanup: No report.

Nominations: No report.

GREAT Equipment: No report.

River Debris Removal: No report.

GREAT land and building: We are still waiting for the new building signage, discussion next month.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Water Trail: No report.

Grand River Trail Map and Booklet: On hold.

RELATED GROUPS:

Watershed Alliance: No report.

Earth Day: No report.

JCCD:. No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Vests are still needed for Cathy and Jeff.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36.

The next monthly meeting will be June 3, 2020 at Summit Township Hall at 7:00 P.M.

Kurt LaFrance, Recorder of Minutes

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