



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 6, 2021
ZOOM

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:13 P.M. A special thanks to Blackman Township for the use of their Zoom account.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Kenny Price, Jack Ripstra, Deb Snell, Dan Kaser, Cathy Jehnzen, John Minar, Kurt Rudolph, and Benji Ward

Absent: Kay Brown, Kurt LaFrance, Jeff Lolkus

Guests:

AGENDA REVIEW:

There was a motion to accept the amended emailed agenda by Kurt Rudolph, seconded by Benji Ward, and approved by all

MINUTES:

There was a motion to accept the emailed September minutes by Jack Ripstra seconded by Deb Snell, and approved by all.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Deb Snell reported that we have 85 paid 2021 memberships (Individual, Family, and Sponsor) as of today. There are also 102 members in total, some who may be lagging in their renewal. Members that renew in November 2021 will count towards the 2022 membership. A Membership appeal letter will go out in November. The next Newsletter will be sent via email. The emailed newsletter will be formatted similar to Lansing Oar & Paddle Club, Jackson County Conservation District and other organization newsletters. This format can include links to additional information and actions. Ted Beals passed away in August.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer mailed out a Balance Sheet, a Budget Comparison, and a Profit & Loss sheet. Jack reported that our total assets are \$15,833.99. We have an increase in YTD memberships (+3 sponsors, +1 family, -1 individual).

RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:

Jack reported that the City has cleared all of the river within the City limits with 10' passage. There was discussion of speaking to townships and/or County Parks to assist in clearing.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Kenny deferred to the Discussion Items.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Safety on/in/by the water** – Benji lead us through the Sweep Trip Bag (see attachment). This bags First Aid box was damaged and some of the contents were water damaged. Kurt volunteered to have the Contents of each First Aid Kit reviewed and updated by Lisa. The handwarmers need regular replacement and can be used as foot warmers as well.
- **October Paddle** – The pre-paddle found the river fairly clear except for two spots. Deb is the Trip Leader and we will meet at 9AM at Dixon Rd (note the Trestle Bridge launch site is only accessible from the North.
- **Annual Cleanup** – Jack noted that we had 51 participants, (including 31 JROTC). There was 10+ cu yd of trash collected (including 8 tires). A packet of heroin was found and turned into law enforcement.
- **City Parks & Recreation Senior Paddle** – The paddle was a success with 15 persons paddling Vandercook, Mud, Cove and Brown's lakes with GREAT guidance. They would like to repeat the

paddle next summer.

- **Marketing** – Deb Snell reported there will be a meeting (Deb, Kay & Cathy) on October 16 to fine tune recommendations by LOAPC.
- **Wild Apricot** – Cathy Jehnzen reported that you can change the type of membership (Individual/Family/Sponsor) within Wild Apricot. It is basically editing the member profile and changing the member level. She will provide a document on how this is accomplished. She has also updated the 2020 and 2021 Events with waiver information. This will allow for exporting participation data. If a member is lapsed for a year there may need to be a manual intervention to move into the current year as WA simply extends the last membership year. If a paddle participant indicates an interest in becoming a member, there needs to be a follow-up along with “How did you hear about us”.

Standing Committees:

Communication/Newsletter: see above.

Finances: No report.

Activities & Calendar: No report.

Education & Advocacy: No report.

Annual Cleanup: No report.

Nominations: Kenny will contact Brandon Goyings. He will also check in with Jeff.

GREAT Equipment: No report

River Debris Removal: see above

GREAT land and building: Jack is getting bids on downspouts. Jim Seitz is going to paint the doors. Jim is also looking for something for Andy LaFave family.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Grand River Trail Map and Booklet: No report.

Water Trail: No report.

RELATED GROUPS:

Watershed Council: No report.

Earth Day: No report.

JCCD:. No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

The next monthly meeting will be on November 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. virtually (Zoom, Google Hangout, etc.).

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 as moved by John Minar, seconded by Kurt Rudolph and approved by all.

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.