



BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
September 1, 2021  
ZOOM

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

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Kenny Price, Kurt LaFrance, Jack Ripstra, Deb Snell, Jeff Lolkus, Kurt Rudolph, and Benji Ward

**Absent:** Kay Brown, Cathy Jehnzen, Dan Kaser, John Minar

**Guests:**

**AGENDA REVIEW:**

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

**MINUTES:**

There was a motion to accept the emailed August minutes as amended by Jack Ripstra seconded by Kurt LaFrance, and approved by all.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

Deb Snell reported that we have 72 renewed memberships and 67 personalized renewal requests were sent out. The later are members that have lapsed over the last three years. Deb reported a glitch in the Access database, causing about 20 members to be missed with Newsletter and renewal information.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer mailed out a Balance Sheet, a Budget Comparison, and a Profit & Loss sheet. Jack reported that our membership is down by 13 for individuals, and one Family, and up by one for a Sponsor. Total assets are \$15,746.07.

**RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:**

Jack reported that he, John, and Dan paddled from Downtown to RA Green Park. There were 2 trees down at Trail Street and 1 at Lions Park. There are also 2 trees down at RA Green and a jamb at Lone Tree. The City will take care of the first two issues prior to the September Clean-up. There are also numerous trees down South of Downtown

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Kenny reported that it is Coast Guard Day. Also, the Vandercook Lake launch should be complete in September along with a dedication. He also recommended "River App" (Apple & Android) and "River Watch" (Android only).

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **July Paddle, Little Wolf Lake** – Kurt LaFrance noted the trip went well and the pictures from the drone were great.
- **Safety on/in/by the water** –Kenny will have a meeting in late August. There was discussion of First Aid, CPR, and AED training. Kenny will look into further.
- **August Paddle** – The paddle will be held at Lake Winnewana and information is posted on the web site. We will meet up at 9:15 Saturday, August 14.
- **Annual Cleanup** – Jack spoke with Master Sergeant Mike and the JROTC will provide a 20 passenger van. At this time it is planned to launch 8 canoes downtown and 8 at RA Greene Park (50' S of bridge). The City still plans to take care of the trees in the City and the current water level will allow standing in the water to cut. It was recommended to contact Consumers Energy (Sarah Crouch) and Gerdaul Steel.
- **Marketing** – Deb Snell reported on the ad hoc Marketing Committee meeting with Loretta of Lansing Oar and Paddle (LOAP). LOAP uses Meet-up for almost every communication with the

community. They use Wix for their web site. Currently, our web site does not pop up with even basic keyword searches. LOAP uses MailChimp for their email. The email their newsletter and it contains a variety of links to more information. Deb will email details of the meeting to the Board.

**Standing Committees:**

**Communication/Newsletter:** Deb noted that there is a need for an article on the cleanup.

**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:** No report l.

**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:**

The board voted 5 yea to 2 nay to hold the next monthly meeting will be on October 6, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. virtually (Zoom, Google Hangout, etc.).

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 as moved by Kurt Rudolph, seconded by Kurt LaFrance 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.*