



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 5, 2023
Summit Township Hall

The meeting was called to order in record time by Vice-President, Kenny Price at 7:24 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

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

Absent: Dan Kaser

AGENDA REVIEW:

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

MINUTES:

A motion to accept the amended minutes from the February meeting was made by Jack Ripstra, seconded by Cathy Jehnzen, and approved by all.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Jack emailed a membership report prior to the meeting and provided an update as of April 4 indicating that we are down 13 individual and one sponsor memberships, and 1 family memberships from this time last year for a total \$330 shortfall. Deb noted that we have had 36 renewed memberships since November 2022 and 17 sponsors.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer mailed out a Balance Sheet, a Budget Comparison, and a Profit & Loss sheet. Jack reported that we have Total Current Assets of \$21,191.91, and Total Liabilities and Equity of \$103,466.78.

RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:

We will begin cutting for the May paddle (Sutfin Rd to Liberty Mill Pond) and the Mystery Paddle. These areas will require mostly lopping.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

There was discussion of the 2023 Annual Dinner on March 22. There was consensus that a good time was had, the food was good, it was a bit noisy at first with other patrons, but that was resolved when the time came for the program. There was discussion of a "Committee to use all Media". Deb Snell noted that she is being helped by her daughter Kate and Kathryn Kanuszewski.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **2023 Earth Day, April 22** – It was noted that the location at the Cascades Park has shifted slightly to the North. This will be an improvement, because the paddling launch location will be closer to the tent.
- **New Phone** – Jack reported that the GREAT phone number has been changed to 517-513-7504. This has been updated on the website. The phone number required changes due to Verizon not releasing the old number after numerous attempts to resolve the issue with Customer Support. We are now served by US Mobile and have a smart phone with text and data.

Standing Committees:

Communication: Deb will transfer files to Cathy. There was discussion about changing the location of the mailbox. I was recommended that it be moved closer to be more convenient for Cathy and it will likely lower the cost. Deb noted that there is the potential to obtain \$5-25K in MI Non-Profit Covid Relief Funds. She will look into.

Newsletter: Deb felt that she should have more time for the Newsletter.

Finances: No report.

Activities & Calendar: The activities calendar was circulated to sign-up for event positions.

Education & Advocacy: No report.

Annual Cleanup: No report.

Nominations: No report.

GREAT Equipment: Phone – see above.

River Debris Removal: No report.

GREAT land and building: Jack reported that the building has a \$65K in insurance value. In order to bring it to a current estimated \$95K replacement value, it would cost \$3-400 more dollars per year. Jack will get other price options.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Grand River Trail Map and Booklet: on hold.

Water Trail: see Discussion Item above

RELATED GROUPS:

Watershed Alliance: No report.

Earth Day: No report.

JCCD: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18.

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.

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