



BOARD MEETING DISCUSSION
August 2, 2023
Summit Township Hall

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

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Kenny Price, Brandon Goyings, Dan Kaser, John Minar, Kurt Rudolph, Deb Snell, and Benji Ward

Absent: Cathy Jehnzen, Kurt LaFrance, Jack Ripstra, and Kay Brown

AGENDA REVIEW:

There was a motion to accept the emailed agenda by Kurt Rudolph, seconded by Deb Snell, and approved by all.

MINUTES:

A motion to accept the amended minutes from the July meeting was made by Dan Kaser, seconded by Deb, and approved by all.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Cathy's email reports that per Wild Apricot, we have 52 paid active memberships (40 individual, 32 Family, & 28 Sponsors). Cathy was not available to answer questions about the discrepancy.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

There were no attached financial files emailed prior to the meeting. Jack was not available to report.

RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:

There was no report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

No report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **GREAT T-shirt** – Shirts are due in on August 16. There was a backlog due to power outages. Bring \$10/shirt ordered to the September meeting.
- **July 2023 Paddle Clinton- Tecumseh** – The delayed paddle was discussed. The water was swift and the paddle challenging. There was some concern with a lack of signage at one location where there was a decision. There was one spill at the start of the paddle. The last two boats took the wrong turn and ended up being significantly delayed.
- **August Paddle- Saylor Landing to Historic Bridge** – Deb is the Trip Leader. It should be a long shuttle, but the river is wide and well-traveled. EGLE employees may attend. We will paddle past the area where the Ceresco Dam was removed.
- **Web Site** – Katie has been away. Work is continuing upon her return and the September Clean-up Flyer is being updated to match the Web Site.
- **Non-Point Source Grants** – Kenny is the Upper Grand River Watershed Council member that can apply for a grant. Molly Kaser can assist with Grant writing.
- **GREAT App** – There was discussion about the creation of a GREAT App for phones like what some other paddling groups use. However, that is a lot of work and would require regular maintenance.
- **Senior Paddle- Wednesday, August 16** – The City of Jackson Recreation Department will use GREAT equipment for the paddle on Vandercook Lake.

- **Farmers Market– Senior Day** – The marketing effort at the Jackson Farmers Market appeared to be a big success with significant interest from the community. There may be similar opportunities at events like the Jackson County Health Expo and Food Truck Tuesdays at Michigan Ave and Jackson St. It would be a good spot to advertise the September Clean-up.

Standing Committees:

Communication: There was discussion of Invasive Species activity and the 3 page summary of recommendations for the GREAT land. Deb and Cathy still need to discuss transition. Deb and Kenny will provide an Outreach Table on Senior Day at the Downtown Farmers Market Friday, July 7.

Newsletter: Deb noted that Katie has continued to do a great deal of work on the web site. The group reviewed the changes thus far and there was consensus that it looks great. The model is Paddle Antrim.

Finances: No report.

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

Education & Advocacy: No report.

Annual Cleanup: We need to promote the Event which will start September 9 at Noon at RA Green Park. Benji recommends promoting the event on the radio like WKHM.

Nominations: No report.

GREAT Equipment: No report.

River Debris Removal: No report.

GREAT land and building: No report.

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 8:16 PM.

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.