

Two Rivers Coalition

Minutes of Feb. 10 2106 Board meeting at Geneva Twp. Hall

Call to order: 6:11 p.m.

Attendees: Kevin Haight, Dave Foerster, Kenneth Nesbitt, Colleen Forestieri

Agenda addition: Ox Creek fundraiser

Approval of Minutes: Minutes not yet available from Jan. 13, 2016

Announcements/events. FotSJR Annual Meeting Mar.18 (Kevin registered/can carpool)

Treasurer's Report: On hand resources total \$8521. Receipts show \$100 donation from South Haven Steelheaders. Kenneth to pay old invoice from VBCC from Dec. 2013 of \$40. Kenneth has filed early Form 990-N with IRS.

Old Business:

VSMP: Aquatic biologist Tamara Lipsey will give presentation on her biosurvey work in SW Mich streams on March 9 at VBCC at 7:00 p.m. Room reserved. There will be a board meeting at time/location to be announced before presentation.

Stream Crossing Inventory: March 31 is the training date. Kevin, Dave and possibly Kenneth all interested in working on project but unavailable for training. Colleen may attend.

Ox Creek/ PPR: Workshop on soil conservation very well attended. Next meeting of partners is Feb. 12 where fundraiser to be discussed. Marcy has looked into "Pint Night" at The Livery in B.H where 50 cents per beer will be donated. All partners will promote but proceeds will go to TRC's Ox Creek commitment. Date will be May 5 from 5-8:00 p.m. Discussed possibility of afternoon paddle on Lower PPR beforehand.

New Business:

CISMA: Kevin to attend meeting on Feb.11 where AJ will announce grant request approved. TRC has pledged \$1000 in kind match for education and outreach, publicity, etc. Grant includes a Celery Pond education/demonstration project for which City of SH pledged \$4,500 and Celery Pond Advocates \$4,000 cash and \$500 in kind.

Nature Conservancy Celery Pond Grant: Kevin reported on TNC grant pre-proposal that will seek to restore Celery Pond (eradicate invasives). No request for any match at this time.

Discussed need to get PowerPoint of TRC 2015 accomplishments (shown at annual meeting) up on website.

Confirmed that pursuant to electronic votes, TRC became a signatory to 2 letters to Canadian government objecting to 1) discharge of radionuclides and 2) storing nuclear waste underground near Lake Huron.

Amendments to bylaws.

1) After written notice of the proposed change to the bylaws was given to all board members on Feb.1, 2016, Kevin Haight made a motion supported by Dave Foerster to amend Article 5, Section/Paragraph E. to read as follows: "There shall be no limit to the number of consecutive or non-consecutive terms to which a Board Member may be duly elected or appointed." Haight, Foerster, Nesbitt, and Forestieri all voted in favor; none opposed.

2) After written notice of the proposed change to the bylaws was given to all board members on Feb.1, 2016, Kevin Haight made a motion supported by Dave Foerster to amend Article 6, Section/Paragraph A. to read as follows:" The officers of TRC shall be president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer elected from the Board of Directors serving." Haight, Foerster, Nesbitt, and Forestieri all voted in favor; none opposed. Dave Foerster will update the bylaws on the webpage with these two changes.

Appointment to unfilled Board seat. Kevin Haight made a motion supported by Dave Foerster to appoint Joe Parman as a Board member to a currently unfilled Board seat. Haight, Foerster, Nesbitt, and Forestieri all voted in favor; none opposed.

Election of officer. Dave Foerster made a motion supported by Kevin Haight to elect Joe Parman as Secretary. Haight, Foerster, Nesbitt, and Forestieri all voted in favor; none opposed.

Renewal of memberships in Freshwater Future and River Networks. Dave Foerster made a motion supported by Kevin Haight to spend up to \$250 to renew TRC memberships with Freshwater Future and River Network. Haight, Foerster, Nesbitt and Forestieri all voted in favor; none opposed. River Network's River Rally will be in Grand Rapids in May of 2017. Paco Ollivardes of RN willing to work with TRC on a half day Board development/strategy workshop. Haight to further explore.

Discussion of whether to join Michigan Environmental Council at cost of \$100 per year. MEC sponsors Lobby Day in Lansing. No action taken.

Speakers/Goals/Projects AND Fundraising. Colleen F. proposed ongoing discussion of fundraising in light of \$9,000 commitment to Ox Creek project. TRC can do its own Pint Night at Livery every year, perhaps other Give Back venues. Perhaps a movie series at Celebration Cinema in B.H.

Kenneth planning several Senior Citizen paddle events; also a Black River paddle w/ BSHHWTA in conjunction with SWMLC's Grand Opening of BRP.

Re: speakers, Kenneth to investigate "Shifting Sands" producers as Annual Mtg speakers.

Miscellaneous. Kenneth reported that recent changes to law on director liability may call for changes to bylaws to take advantage. Kevin to review. Also, Kevin, Dave, Kenneth to meet w/Colleen at VBCD on 2/11 to work on website issues.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 p.m. Meeting notes taken by Colleen and Kevin.