



TWO RIVERS COALITION
June 8, 2016 BOARD MEETING
Van Buren Conservation District Office, Paw Paw, MI

Call to order: 4:42 PM

Attendees: Kenneth Nesbitt, Bette Pierman, Joe Parman, Dave Foerster, Colleen Forestieri, Kyle Boone(Representing Grant Poole, Pokagon Band) (board members underlined)

Agenda – June 8, 2016 agenda approved as amended

Motion by Joe Parman, seconded by Colleen Forestieri to approve May 11, 2016 preliminary minutes as amended, all in favor, motion carried.

March 2016 Treasurer Report, hand-out provided: TRC has \$8327.00 in Total Resources.

Motion by Dave Foerster, seconded by Bette Pierman to approve May 2016 Treasurer's Report, all in favor, motion carried.

Announcements, events, deadlines, etc.:

- Jun 9- Natural Shorelines program Berrien County (Sarett)
- Jun 15 - Senior Paddle on Maple Lake
- Jul 13 - VBCD Farm Day/Picnic 6:00 p.m. (TRC meeting at picnic)
- Jul 15 - Field trip to Cardno native plant nursery
- Jul 23 – Rhythm on the River festival South Haven (TRC set-up table?)
- Jul 24 - Maple Circle Paddle on Maple Lake
- Aug 2 - VBCD millage request on ballot
- Aug 6 - River Rescue
- Sep 19 - ICCD/dedication of Maple Lake natural shoreline
- Oct 2 - Fall VSMP collection event
- Oct 15 - grand opening Black River Preserve/ Paddle on BR
- Dec 7- Annual meeting

Old Business

Grants:

1. **VSMP with VBCD:** No new report at this time
2. **Stream Crossing Inventory with VBRC:** Volunteer's still need to sign up for inventory times and locations.
3. **PPR/Ox Creek with SWMLC and SWMPC:**
 - a) Community Pint Night at The Livery May 5th and Paddle-Recap- Total made was \$1031.56 (\$523.06 from donation jars, \$450 from kayak auction since Third Coast Surf Shop ended up donating kayak, and \$58.50 from Livery based on selling a record 117 pints)



4. **CISMA with VBCD:** Erin Fuller, VBCD will be the program coordinator for the grant program for phragmites education and control. Board would like Erin to come to TRC meeting explaining the program and how TRC members can help.
5. **Pine Creek Grant/VBC, Colleen Forestieri:** Program Grant Starts in September 2016

Cardno Nursery Field Trip, Walkerton, IN, July 15th (22nd rain date): TRC be hosting a day long field trip to the Cardno Native Plant Nursery in Walkerton, Indiana. This is one of the largest nurseries specializing in native plants in the Midwest. Cardno staff will host a tour of all facets of production, including their extensive wetland plant area. Then we will eat a sack lunch (bring your own) in the Cardno conference room while watching a presentation on some aspect of native plant ecology.

Transportation – Carpooling and possible rental of minivan if enough people sign-up (\$22 per person).
RSVP by June 30th on the TRC website under “Contact Us” section.

New Business

Fundraising:

- a) Board held discussion on future Pint Nights for fundraisers on the PPR/Ox Creek Grant and other TRC programs. Possible locations: Livery, Benton Harbor and Paw Paw Brewing Company, Paw Paw. Board members will contact owners for future events, TBD.
- b) Raffle License: Village of Paw Paw passed resolution so TRC can be a qualifying organization and submit application to SOM.
- c) Community Thrift Store, Paw Paw: Member can volunteer for one Saturday a month earning 40 percent of sales, max \$400 for TRC. TBD

Proposed Paw Paw River Water Trail PPRWT: Board held discussion on TRC’s possible role in proposed water trail. The MDNR has been approved for \$100,000 in October 2016 budget for Paw Paw River Trail maintenance and programming. TRC will sponsor future paddles and volunteer maintenance events in 2016-17. Next water trail meeting will be June 27th, 9:00 a.m., Coloma Twp Hall.

- a) Plans are in the works to officially designate the PPRWT as the first official “Water Trail” in the State.
- b) Sarett Nature Center has more information on their website: sarett.com
- c) Next Step: Map public access sites, current conditions, priority areas and signage.

Annual Meeting: Room reserved at VBCC for Wednesday Dec. 7th: “Shifting Sands on the Path to Sustainability”, director/producer Pat Wisniewski agreed to show their hour long documentary at meeting.

Bangor-South Haven Heritage Water Trail, B/SHHWTA: Water Trail Maintenance every Saturday through July. Annual Meeting is October 22, 2016.

Next Board Meeting will be July 13th at the Van Buren Conservation Districts Annual Meeting/Summer Farm Day Picnic 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Vineyard Family Farm, 24777 CR 354, Lawton MI. RSVP with VBCD.

Adjourn. 6:23 p.m.

Respectively submitted:
Joe Parman, Secretary