



*An alliance of the Black River
and Paw Paw River Watersheds*

**TWO RIVERS COALITION
March 14, 2012 BOARD MEETING
Geneva Township Hall**

Call to order: 7:06 p.m.

Attendees: Dave Foerster, Joe Parman, Tom Howe, Kenneth Nesbitt, Joe von Walde, Chris Bauer, Jon De Braya, Grant Poole, John Mitchell, Nina Consolatti, Roark Consolatti, JoAnn Harris, Jon Jillson, Gaye Blind, Sandra E. Tyrell, Dave Marcelletti, Same Ewbank

Motion by Sam Ewbank, 2nd by Joe von Walde to approve agenda, all in favor

Motion by Joe von Walde, 2nd by Sam Ewbank to approve February 8, 2012 minutes as amended, all in favor

Presentation – Invasive Species Control – Shaun Howard, Nature Conservancy:

Mr. Howard specializes in terrestrial plant species. The focus of the presentation was on invasive plants along the Lake Michigan Coastal Dunes. The Nature Conservancy partners with several agencies and foundations including grants from “Sustain Our Great Lakes” foundation and Meijers, “Lake Michigan Coastal Restoration Project”. Plant species of high priority include but are not limited to Babies Breath, Phragmites, Kudzu, Lyme Grass, Japanese Knotweed and Oriental Bittersweet. Survey and data on invasive species can be found on Midwest Invasive Species Information Network website, www.misin.msu.edu

Treasurer’s Report – Kenneth Nesbitt - handouts provided, total assets at \$11,104.84

Motion by Tom Howe, 2nd by Joe von Walde to approve Treasurer’s Report, all in favor

Old Business:

TRC Logo – The logo needs sharpened for artwork on signs and hand-out. Discussion was held on hiring Hank Ewbank to generate new artwork for the logo.

Motion by Kenneth Nesbitt, 2nd by Tom Howe to hire Hank Ewbank to design new artwork for the TRC logo not to exceed \$100.00, all in favor

Fundraising – Sam Ewbank, June 23rd Foundry Hall Event, “Battle of the Bands” was cancelled.

Jeff Mitchell Park – Progress: DNR working on maintenance/construction portion with the Kal-Haven Trail. TRC contribution will be with the finish work on the County Road Commissions portion.

Community Connections – Quarterly TRC Board Meeting Presentations: Scott Dierks with Cardno JFNew with do a presentation on Low Impact Development, LID at the TRC June 13th Board Meeting. The meeting will be move to the Lawrence Conference Center, Lawrence, MI



Events – Nesbitt - Kenneth is currently working on a hand-out and summary for the paddle events scheduled in 2012 and will be posted on the TRC website. TRC will support the Conservation Districts “River Rescue” for 2012, letter of support to be provided by Kenneth Nesbitt, \$700.00 – includes labor and trash removal. The next paddle event is June 29-July 1, 2012, Paw Paw River Paddler’s Jamboree in Watervliet, MI

New Business:

Paw Paw Library Interpretive Signs – Discussion was held on TRC sponsoring interpretive signage for the New Paw Paw Library site which incorporates LID. Dave Foerster estimates sign cost to be \$1,000.

Motion by Tom Howe to table discussion on signage until further information is gathered, not seconded, motion fails

Kenneth Nesbitt stated that the President, Dave Foerster has shown good judgment in the past and always notifies the board before making important decision pertaining to TRC. Discussion was held by the board following Kenneth’s comments.

Motion by Kenneth, 2nd by Dave Foerster - President, Dave Foerster will obtain more details on the Paw Paw Library signage and approve TRC’s sponsoring of interpretive signs with email notifications to the TRC Board, not to exceed \$1,000. 5 in favor, 2 not, motion carries

Announcements, Suggestions, Comments:

- Van Buren Conservation District
- Spring Tree Seedling Sale, April 20-21
 - Native Plant Sale, May 19

Chris Bauer, MDEQ – Paw Paw River Watershed Biological Survey data is available on the MDEQ website. The majority of the watershed tributaries were rated acceptable for macroinvertebrate community and habitat.

St. Joseph River Watershed Annual Meeting March 26th, Sturgis, MI

Respectfully submitted by, Joe Parman, Secretary