



## TWO RIVERS COALITION BOARD MEETING MINUTES JULY 8, 2009

### GENEVA TOWNSHIP HALL

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dave Foerster at 7:06 PM

#### Attendance

Al Baerren; Chris Bauer; Deb Berkey; Marcy Colclough, Dick Curtis; Nancy Edwards; Sam Ewbank; Dave Foerster; Kevin Haight; Matt Meersman; John Mitchell. Board members names are underlined

#### Agenda

The prepared agenda approved without change.

#### June 10 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Deb Berkey to approve the minutes was seconded by Matt Meersman and approved.

#### Treasurer's Report

Matt Meersman's report was displayed overhead. One interesting point was that \$180 in donations had been received via PayPal from the website. Deb Berkey's motion to approve the report was seconded by Nancy Edwards and approved.

#### 319 Grant Proposal

Chris Bauer reported there had been progress and that the grant application was now back with DEQ as part of the approval process.



## Committee Reports

### *Incorporation/ 501c3 status*

Dave Foerster reported that TRCs filing for 501c3 status had been completed 06/15/09. The \$300 filing fee was approved at the June meeting to come from the Freshwater Futures grant.

Freshwater Futures has designated Terry Swier of Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation as TRC's organizational mentor.

### *Fundraising*

Marcy Colclough reviewed plans for the August 1 fundraiser and social at the Michigan Maritime Museum in South Haven. The event, which is co-sponsored by TRC, the Heritage Water Trail Association, the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy and the Kalhaven/ Vanburen Trails, will include a tour on the Kalhaven Trail or the Black River followed by a cookout and social. Final approval for use of Stanley Johnston Park for the cookout and social was pending. The Vanburen County Road Commission will donate special event passes for the Kalhaven Trail.

Approximately \$250 will be needed to cover the costs. Moved by Deb Berkey and seconded by Kevin Haight for TRC to provide up to \$250 to cover the costs of the event. All Board members voted Yes to approve the motion - Al Baerren, Deb Berkey, Nancy Edwards, Sam Ewbank, Dave Foerster, Kevin Haight and Matt Meersman.

### *Membership*

Matt Meersman has rolled out an online application form which auto-populates the membership data base. In response to his E-mail, about 50% of the existing membership has "reapplied" using the new form so that their information is up to date and on file.

### *Media/ Communication*

Following the June Board meeting decision to contract with LIAA for website management services, Dave Foerster reviewed these plans with both LIAA and Freshwater Futures. After further discussion, Deb Berkey moved to authorize



TRC to execute a contract not to exceed \$890 with LIAA to establish a website. The following conditions apply:

1. The site will be hosted on the same server as the SWMPC site and there will be no additional hosting fees per LIAA quote #1115 (dated 04/01/09)
2. Expenses will be charged against the Freshwater Futures 2000 Fall Grant (TRC Initialization) to the extent of the remaining grant per Jill Ryan on 06/23/09.
3. Additional costs beyond the extent of the Freshwater Futures grant

The motion was seconded by Kevin Haight and approved by roll call vote - Al Baerren, Deb Berkey, Nancy Edwards, Sam Ewbank, Dave Foerster, Kevin Haight and Matt Meersman (all Yes).

#### *Annual Meeting*

Deb Berkey has retained the Vanburen ISD for 12/09/09 from 5 - 9 PM. She will be asking lake associations for donations to help cover costs.

#### *Community Connections*

Al Baerren reported that a number of comments had been received and incorporated following the group review of the power point slides at the June meeting. However, based on the recent presentations by John Mitchell and Rachel Dennis, pictures would be a good addition. Marcy Colclough volunteered to add picture slides from various activities.

Al also passed out a draft priority contact list of the most likely towns, townships and lakes for presentations. Marcy suggested getting on the agenda for the Michigan Lake and Stream fall meetings as a way to reach multiple lake associations at one time.

#### *P-Ban Outreach*

TRC flyers, which describe the new Van Buren county phosphorus ban ordinance, were included in many local summer tax bills. There were some exceptions, primarily in cases where envelopes had already been stuffed for mailing when the flyers were received.



### *Septic System Outreach*

Dave Foerster reported Jean Ketchum is seriously ill and will be somewhat inactive for the immediate future. Deb Berkey reported the Great Bear Lake Association will be distributing septic system dye pellets to residents. The pellets, which are available through the County Public Health Department, are designed to show owners if their septic systems have leaks that affect lawns or nearby waterways.

### *Buffers*

There was no report

### New Business

There was no new business

### Old Business

There was no old business

### Announcements

Michigan Department of Natural Resources will host "Fish Fest 2009" on July 18 and 19 at the Wolf Lake fish Hatchery. This event, which features special programs and demonstrations related to fishing and conservations, is free to everyone who attends.

### Adjourn

Dave Foerster declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.