



**TWO RIVERS COALITION
June 9, 2010 BOARD MEETING
GENEVA TOWNSHIP HALL**

Call to order: 7:03 p.m.

Attendees: Al Baerren, Sam Ewbank, Joe Parman, Kevin Haight, Dave Foerster, Frank Jurenka, Matt Meersman, Lou Gibson, Marcy Colclough (Board Members underlined)

Agenda - approved with additions, no objections

Motion by Frank Jurenka to approve May 12, 2010 minutes, 2nd by Sam Ewbank - all in favor

Treasurers Report – Matt Meersman - Hand-out and computer display provided; Net income for the month of -\$781.34, Total Assets \$6,676.13

Motion by Sam Ewbank to approve May 12, 2010 Treasurers Report – approved

Dave Foerster reported that he had transmitted the letter of support as approved by the Board via emails this past month for The Nature Conservancy's proposal to NRCS for a Conservation Innovation Grant. The purpose of the project is to refine the scale, scope, and location of conservation activities needed to reach ecologically meaningful improvements in the Paw Paw River watershed. TNC states the project will integrate and provide easy access to existing knowledge, data, and proven decision/modeling tools that forecast quantifiable conservation outcomes and facilitate strategic placement of conservation practices to maximize benefits of each conservation investment.

Dave Foerster announced that TRC may want to offer a letter of support for the "BRACE" organization and their efforts. Their mission is to develop a sense of place through water quality, natural resources, and community commitment.

Motion by Same Ewbank and supported by Frank Jurenka to offer Brace a letter of support from TRC, all in favor

Discussion: Freshwater Future is sponsoring a Walk, Paddle and Ride event in efforts to raise money for their organization and others like TRC. Individuals raise money through pledges of money on the number of miles, hours, etc... one may paddle, walk, ride a bike, etc... and half of



the money goes to Freshwater Future and half goes to TRC. Discussion was tabled so board members can research the fundraiser.

Board Members and attendees broke-out into two groups: Wetland preservation through local government efforts, and membership development/advocacy.

1. Wetland preservation/local government discussion: Approach townships in efforts to adopt a local ordinance to preserve wetlands. Using a Wetland Assessment Function Tool with show why wetlands are import and give site specific information; i.e. water quality, flood prevention and environmental stewardship.
2. Membership development discussion: A two page letter is being developed and mailed out to members and other interested parties informing them of TRC's goals and accomplishments and encouraging them to participate.

Motion by Sam Ewbank, 2nd by Matt Meersman to use the remainder of the River Network Grant for the membership development mailing, all in favor

Announcements, comments:

August 7th – River Rescue – Community Cleanup
September 18th, Native Plant Sale, Van Buren Conservation District
October 21st - Techniques of Wetland Restoration
November 17th – Farming for the Future

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by,
Joe Parman, Secretary