

Friend of the Maple River
Minutes of October 17, 2007
Rainbow Lake Management Office
11150 S. Luce, Perrinton

PRESENT:

Joe Latoff, President
Anita Ladouceur, Secretary & Website Coordinator
Joe Smolka, Treasurer
Gary Boersen, Monitoring Committee Chair
Gary Fritz, Clinton County Conservation District
Phil Hanses, Clinton County Drain Commission
Russ Lapham
Connie Lapham
Dale Ladouceur
Jeff Wadell
Lena Ely
Becky Latoff
Jim Ellickson

CALL TO ORDER:

Latoff welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Latoff stated the purpose of the group.

IDENTIFICATION OF SECRETARY

Anita Ladouceur volunteered to be the Secretary.

AGENDA:

Latoff welcomed guest speaker Gary Fritz.

Hanses moved to approve the agenda as presented. R. Lapham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

R. Lapham moved to approve the minutes of September 19, 2007 meeting as presented. Smolka supported the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking Account Balance:

- Smolka reported a balance of \$407 in the checking account.
- Latoff reported that FOTMR will be receiving a debit card for purchases and website billing.

Donations & Contributions: None to report.

Fundraising - Pontoon Boat & Canoe Raffle:

- The project is waiting for drier weather.
- The raffle drawing will be at the Maple Rapids festival in 2008.
- D. Ladouceur volunteered to store the pontoon this winter in his polebarn in Hubbardston.

Membership Renewals:

Smolka recommended adding the topic to the December meeting's agenda.

One date is needed for the renewals. The group will discuss this at December's meeting.

Hanses moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Boersen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Website:

- A. Ladouceur reported that there was a minor delay in setting up the new website with the debit card. Jack Fritz, website developer, will be working on finalizing the website this weekend. A. Ladouceur anticipates the new site being up and running in no later than 2 weeks.

News Articles:

- None to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Watershed Committee:

- Latoff reported for the committee.
- Elsie Dam Project is on hold.
- Maple Rapids Boat Launch & Park Project is on hold.
- New Launch Site, Clinton County Green Space Commission:
 - A DEQ permit will be prepared to do the project.
- Muskrat Lake Project
 - There was a meeting 2 weeks ago and a revised application will be submitted to the DEQ.

Education Committee:

- Latoff reported for the committee.
- Signage Project is still underway.
- Oral History Project is still underway.
- Clinton County Solid Waste Management Department, Watershed Education Curriculum:
 - Latoff encouraged everyone to volunteer to learn the curriculum and make presentations to schools.

Watershed Monitoring Committee

- Gary Boersen is the new Committee Chair.
- MRW Monitoring Plan
 - Both MSU and the DEQ are conducting their own work in the watershed. We need to coordinate and get cooperation from these other groups.
 - There are a lot of activities at the agricultural properties too that we can benefit from.
- Pine Creek Project
 - This will be evaluated as part of the 319 Plan.
- 319 Watershed Management Plan
 - Fritz gave an update on the grant.
 - The next step is to meet with the DEQ.
 - January 1, 2008 is the anticipated start date.
 - A steering committee will be formed.
 - Fritz handed out the project description and map. We will eventually need to decide what information we want to put on the website.
 - The monitoring portion of the grant is once a year. Volunteers will be trained to do the monitoring at each of the 15 sites.

NEW BUSINESS:

President's Resignation:

- Latoff stated that he will be resigning in 2 weeks due to other obligations.
- Latoff wants to spend his time with the group working on the 319 Plan.
- Latoff will be available to help the new President.
- Hanses thanked Latoff for his efforts and enthusiasm the past 2+ years.

Procedure for the Election of New President:

- The officers will meet before the next meeting to discuss Latoff's replacement.
- We will be ready to elect a new President at December's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

D. Ladouceur moved to adjourn the meeting. R. Lapham seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on December 5, 2007 at the Pewamo Village Hall, 130 Main Street, Pewamo. A social time will take place from 6:30pm to 7:00pm.

Please direct any and all modifications to the minutes to Anita Ladouceur, 989-981-6869.