

Friend of the Maple River
Minutes of January 16, 2008
Rusty Nail Restaurant, Carson City
www.friendsofthemapleriver.org

PRESENT:

Jeff Wadell, President
Ed Mikula, Vice President
Anita Ladouceur, Secretary
Gary Boersen, Watershed Monitoring Committee Chair
Dale Ladouceur
Jon Morrison
Chris Mikula

CALL TO ORDER:

Wadell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

AGENDA REVIEW, REVISIONS AND ADOPTION:

Mikula moved to approve the agenda as presented. D. Ladouceur seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- A. Ladouceur presented the meetings from December 5, 2007
 - Mikula moved to approve the minutes as presented. Boersen supported the motion. Motion carried.
- Membership List
 - A. Ladouceur explained that some of the membership records kept by the previous secretary were missing information regarding when someone joined the FOTMR and the length of their membership.
 - A. Ladouceur will send out an email to everyone in the database to obtain the membership renewals. The email will also include a membership application and link to the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking Account Balance: Smolka was unable to attend the meeting.

Donations & Contributions: no discussion

Fundraising - Pontoon Boat & Canoe Raffle:

- There was a lot of discussion regarding the raffle.
- The general consensus was that the canoe is marketable as a raffle prize, but the pontoon is not. This is because the pontoon is very large, very heavy (steel), and does not have a motor, railing, or console. The group will decide at a later date what to do with it.
- D. Ladouceur offered to track down additional raffle prizes (e.g. fishing rod and reel, binoculars, etc.)
- No one has volunteered to be the raffle chairperson.
- Wadell is going to contact Smolka to find out the status of the raffle license.

- Morrison volunteered to check on the state requirements are to complete the raffle license.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Website:

- A. Ladouceur reported that the website is now complete and she welcomes input from members.
- A. Ladouceur will check with the developer about adding a counter to the website so we know how many people are visiting to the website.
- The group also had recommendations on more links that can be added to the website. A. Ladouceur will follow-up with the developer.

Website Funding:

- A. Ladouceur explained that the FOTMR needs a structured way of paying the website developer his \$25/month fee.
- A. Ladouceur paid the fee from October through December 2007.
- A. Ladouceur will contact Smolka about writing the developer a check for \$150 to cover his cost from January through June 2008.

New Articles:

- Mikula needs the meeting minutes, the meeting location and speaker information the beginning of each month to get to send out the news releases.
- A. Ladouceur will now email the minutes to Mikula.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Watershed Improvement Committee: Nutter was absent from the meeting.

- Spring Cleanup Project
 - The river cleanup project will be held on May 3, 2008.
- Elsie Dam Project: no discussion
- Maple Rapids Boat Launch & Park Project: no discussion
- New Launch Site, Clinton County Green Space Commission: no discussion
- Muskrat Lake Project
 - Morrison reported that the permit application is close to being sent to the DEQ.
 - Morrison will take before and after photos of the project to share with the group at a future meeting.

Education Committee: Rabe was absent from the meeting.

- Float Trip Plans: no discussion
- Signage Project
 - Wadell shared the design of the signs.
 - Wadell will submit an application to attain grant money to have the signs made.
 - Road Commission will erect the signs.
- Educator Awards
 - One award per year will be presented at the meeting where the recipient lives.
 - Wadell will contact Rabe to discuss the award.

Watershed Monitoring Committee: Boersen reported for the committee.

- 319 Watershed Management Plan
 - Boersen stated that there will be a monitoring component to the grant.
 - This project will be a topic for the annual meeting in May.

NEW BUSINESS:

2008 Meeting Schedule

- The 2008 meeting schedule is on the website.

Brainstorming Project

- The group brainstormed ideas for guest speakers, ideas for increasing membership turnout at meetings, and ideas for fundraising.
- There was discussion about decreasing the number of meetings per year. Morrison shared his experience with the Friends of the Looking Glass and how having too many meetings isn't always the best thing to get members to become involved.

ADJOURNMENT:

A. Ladouceur moved to adjourn the meeting. D. Ladouceur seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on February 20, 2008 at the Ovid Lions Club/V.F.W. Hall, 214 S. Main Street, Ovid.

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