

Friends of the Maple River
Minutes of July 16, 2008
Maple Rapids Community Center
209 W. Union, Maple Rapids

PRESENT:

Jeff Wadell, President
Ed Mikula, Vice President
Phil Hanses
Jack Nutter
Jim Ellickson
John Switzer
Aaron Snell
Lena E. Ely
Joe Latoff
Dale Ladouceur
Ron Curtis
Laura Curtis

CALL TO ORDER:

J. Wadell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

J. Wadell lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

J. Wadell stated the purpose of the group.

AGENDA REVIEW, REVISIONS AND ADOPTION:

There were 2 additions to the agenda: Elsie Dam and MUCC affiliate membership.
Latoff moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mikula seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

319 Watershed Grant:

- Snell, a Stream Restoration Specialist, from Wetland and Coastal Resources reviewed the watershed management plan.
- Stream biology is a good indicator of water quality, erosion, etc.
- The goal is to identify critical areas needing attention as well as other areas with favorable aspects.
- They will be training volunteers to do some of the evaluation work.
- The stream crossing and upland survey consists of 2 person teams completing data sheets, taking photos, and making berm drawings.
- 3 ring binders with maps are available at the Clinton County Conservation District.
- Volunteers are to track their mileage and hours.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Regular Monthly Meeting, June 18, 2008

Nutter moved to approve the minutes of June 18, 2008 meeting as presented. Latoff supported the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking Account Balance:

- Smolka reported a balance of \$ 307.68 in the checking account.
- Wadell reported that the pontoon boat was recycled, and we received \$124.80 from the scrap metal company in Ovid.

Latoff moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Ellickson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

News Articles:

- Mikula stated that he needs information on the upcoming meeting by the first of the month.
- Latoff offered to assist Wadell in finishing the stand for the display board.

Website:

- The FOTMR website will be linked to the 319 project as soon as that website is available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE:

Nutter reported for the committee.

Muskrat Lake Project:

- Latoff has been cleaning the parking area at the access site, and he is working on information for the bulletin boards.
- Hanses updated members on the status of the project.

Downed Tree/Tire Removal Team:

- Nutter is going to get with Larry Martin regarding this project.

Elsie Dam:

- As a result of the last meeting, Latoff discussed the need for the FOTMR to help with the project.
- Chesaning has a similar dam to be removed and they have grant money to do it.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

A Chair is needed for this committee.

Fall Float Trip Plans:

- Ellickson and Fred Olmstead are spearheading this event.
- Potential times and locations were discussed.

WATERSHED MONITORING COMMITTEE:

Boersen was absent

There was no committee report.

Michigan United Conservation Clubs:

- Latoff commented on advantages of being an affiliate member of MUCC.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Festival Participation:

- Latoff is going to attend the St. Johns Mint Festival.
- Ladouceur will provide Wadell a list of 4H Fairs for future attendance.

ADJOURNMENT:

Nutter moved to adjourn the meeting. Smolka seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm. The field trip to the river was cancelled due to inclement weather.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on August 20, 2008 at the Hubbardston Village Hall, 126 Washington Street, Hubbardston.

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