

Friends of the Maple River
Board Meeting
Minutes of May 5, 2010,
Ryan's Roadhouse, St. Johns

PRESENT:

Jeff Wadell, President
Jon Morrison, Treasurer
Anita Ladouceur, Secretary
Ed Mikula, Vice President
Gary Boersen, Monitoring Committee Chair
Joe Latoff, Education Committee Chair

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Review of Election Procedures per By Laws

- There are 5 Board Members (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President)
- The 4 original Board Members were first elected by the members.
- The current Board Members (including Past President) select all future Board Members.
- It is important to the FOTMR that an individual from the agricultural community remain on the Board.

Discussion of Goals of the Organization:

- We will hold off on endorsing specific monitoring activities until the 319 report is final and we review it.
- Some of the goals and objectives of the FOTMR are:
 - Mitigate silt erosion
 - Eliminate contaminants from coming into the river
 - Raise awareness of the Maple River and its watershed
 - Educate the public on the wise use of the watershed
 - Increase the public's appreciation for the river
- We need to get more people on the river through the following means.
 - Annual clean-up
 - Annual float trip
 - Downed tree removal team
 - River Guide book
 - Special events on months with no meeting
- There is a definite need to get more active participation out of the majority of our membership. We have 50 or so paying members, but only a handful actively participate.

MUCC Annual Meeting Delegates

- The meeting is June 26 and 27th in Big Rapids.
- We need two people to go. Duane Platner and Latoff went last year.
- Platner and Morrison were discussed as possible representatives for this year.

Upcoming Turtle Fencing Effort in the State Game Area

- Contact Dan Kennedy at the DNR kennedyd@michigan.gov if you want to help.
- The project involves installing silt fencing.

Motz County Park Grand Opening

- The event is Saturday, June 12th.
- If anyone can help run boats and provide canoes or life vests, contact Morrison.
- A. Ladouceur will put an announcement on the FOTMR website regarding the grand opening.

Fund Expenditure Authorizations

- Shirt order payment
 - On hold for now.
- Watershed protection signs payment
 - This is \$250.

Education Committee Chair:

- Latoff is looking for a volunteer to take over the committee.
- He has personal obligations that will keep him from being able to put in the time needed.

River Guide Book:

- The list of advertisers was reviewed.
- Morrison supplied Ladouceur with the list of locations along the river to add distances to.

Insurance Payments:

- Morrison will arrange it so that both payments (general liability and board) will come due at the same time. This will be easier to track.

Wild Pig Eradication Training Program:

- There will be a wild pig eradication training done on May 12th at the MI Wildlife Conservancy in Bath.
- Anyone interested should contact Latoff.
- Ladouceur already emailed all the FOTMR members.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Please direct any and all modifications to the minutes to info@friendsofthemapleriver.org.