



Our Mission:

"To educate and provide opportunities for people of diverse interests to work together to improve the environmental, recreational, cultural, and economic resources of the Rock River Basin"

Rock River Coalition
Annual Meeting
1855 Saloon & Grill, Cottage Grove, WI
May 19, 2009

Call to Order: The business meeting was called to order at 5:45pm by President Lisa Conley.

Attendance: Directors in attendance were Lisa Conley, Scott Taylor, Patricia Cicero, Suzanne Wade, Ken Wiesner, Tim Reel, Bill Biesmann and Jan Ruster.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from 5-8-08 were approved on a motion from Joe Dorava and a second from Jan Ruster. Motion carried.

Budget Review: Jan Ruster reported to those in attendance the RRC Financial Summary which was included in the printed 2008 Annual Report handout. No questions were observed.

Officer Elections: Lisa Conley explained the current openings and noted the directors that would be leaving their posts. Past President, Joe Dorava, Secretary, Tim Reel and Director at Large, Tracey Novak would not be running for reelection. Nominations that had been previously submitted were from Peter Hartz, City of Johnsons Creek, Ken Wiesner, current Board Member (serving a one year term) and Jim Koepke, owner Koepke Farms Inc. A motion to accept all nominations with a unanimous ballot was made by Tim Reel and seconded by Marsha Vomastic. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: The treasurers report was approved on a motion from Wade and a second from Cicero. Motion carried.

Presentations:

Joint Membership Drive~ Scott Taylor gave an introduction into the discussion of a one time joint membership drive in cooperation with the River Alliance. Allison Werner and Dave Pausch from the River Alliance were on hand to give a presentation on this effort. The River Alliance has done this type of membership drive in the past. Mailings would be sent out next week essentially offering a better two for one deal to folks who are currently NOT members of either organization. In addition letters were given to those in attendance for distribution to any one person they feel would be interested in this offer.

SYLDR (Send Your Legislator Down the River) ~ Ken Wiesner gave an update of this event scheduled for June 22nd. The event will start at Green Hen Landing and the route will take participants to Four Mile Island and back.

Invasive Species Identification~ Patricia Cicero had arranged an aquatic invasive training for the Rock River Basin in cooperation with the River Alliance slated for Sat, August 29, 2009.

Water Star~ Suzanne Wade updated everyone on the progress being made with this innovative program. This is a municipal program that rewards communities through recognition and other

avenues for outstanding water preservation, conservation and quality improvements. Several new training and outreach items are being worked on to be released in the near future.

Farm Fresh Atlas~ Beth Gehred, Town and Country RC&D-Issue Team Coordinator, introduced the group to their new Farm Fresh Atlas which is now online for all to view. www.farmfreshatlas.org

Awards:

Lisa Conley along with help from Suzanne Wade introduced the award recipients and thanked them for their individual and group accomplishments as they related to the Rock River Basin.

Protector Awards~ These are groups, individuals or companies that have contributed to the betterment of the entire Rock River Basin.

Individual- Janice Redford, Friends of Cam-Rock Park. Acknowledged for all her contributions with citizen monitoring in the Koshkonong Creek Watershed.

Educator- Mary Beth Steven, Cambridge School District. Acknowledged for her environmental education efforts over the past 13yrs.

Organization- Lake Sinnissippi District. Acknowledged for their leadership and commitment not only in Lake Sinnissippi but throughout the basin.

Friends of Allen Creek Watershed. Acknowledged for their contributions through water quality studies and extensive monitoring efforts.

Elected Official- Mark Miller, Senator. Acknowledged for his efforts and support in dealing with the lawn fertilizer ban.

*All recipients were awarded a hand painted outdoor scene on a turkey feather with an engraved cherry wood base.

Friends Awards~ These awards are given to individuals who have contributed to the success of the Rock River Coalition.

- Joe Dorava- Past president. Acknowledged for all his work on the GFLOW and phosphorus lawn fertilizer projects.
- Bryan Huberty- Past Wetland Monitoring Coordinator. Acknowledged for his contributions in monitoring wetland restoration efforts.
- Roger Kist- Founding Member. Acknowledged for his many years of guidance and support as a Board Member and link between the WI Assoc. of Parks as well.
- Nolan Kollath- Wetland Monitoring Volunteer, Avid Birder. Acknowledged for all his time and educational efforts working with other volunteers.
- Tim Reel- Past Board Secretary. Acknowledged for his help in grant writing and working on the phosphorus monitoring program.
- Marsha Vomastic- Website Support. Acknowledged for her help on the RRC website and participation with the Water Star Community Program.

*All recipients received an 11" x 14" framed bird photo. All photos were from the Horicon Marsh.

Citizen Monitoring:

All the citizen monitors were acknowledged with award certificates!

Presentation:

The meeting was concluded with a presentation of the Zeloski Marsh project by Nolan Kollath.