



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"

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, December 18, 4:45 PM – UW Extension, Jefferson

Attending this meeting: Patricia Cicero, Scott Taylor, Suzanne Wade, Joleen Stinson, Jane Carlson, Jim Kerler, Eric Compas, Dan Lynch

Absent: Jim Koepke, Joe Zakovec

Call to Order: Board President Patricia Cicero called the meeting to order at approximately 4:55 PM.

Approval of Minutes from October 23, 2013 Meeting: Tabled until December's meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The board will start looking at the 2014 budget in December. Suzanne asked that all board members read and respond to emails promptly when she sends budget information and questions. She asked Nancy to submit a summary of equipment, travel and time requests for next year. All board members should be working to bring in more revenue.

Membership Report: No report as the annual membership mailing will be completed tonight.

Quirk Foundation Grant: Suzanne heard a verbal notification that the Coalition will receive partial funding, likely \$4,000-\$5,000. The Coalition board will decide how to prioritize funding. After discussion, there was consensus that new chapter development was the most important component of the grant, followed by the 20th anniversary celebration. Educational program development funding can be reduced if we explore other options for funding or creative ways to get parts of the work done, specifically marketing. The interactive web based map/tour funding could also be reduced if we explore other funding options.

For the new chapter component of the grant request, we requested funds to hire a facilitator. Patricia called Allison Werner from the River Alliance to get advice about hiring a board member as a consultant. Allison noted that there is a line on the 990 tax form for non-profits to complete if any board member received compensation. She also suggested that we have a procedure in place to make sure we're not favoring board members and gave a few examples of questions to ask: Is the board member qualified? Was there competition in the hiring process, were others considered? Is the pay competitive? The RRC bylaws state that any time the board discusses a specific project which may involve hiring a board member that the affected board member should leave the room. She also suggested when a motion is made about hiring a board member, it is very detailed. Patricia will get back in touch with Allison for more specific direction and to see if she has a regulatory reference and/or similar policy example that we could use to develop our own. Patricia will email new information to all board members.

Yahara WINs proposal: Nancy is working on a grant proposal for the second year of monitoring, she will have a draft complete by November 26. Patricia will send it to the entire board for review and to learn more about the project. Jane, Suzanne and Patricia offered to edit. Comments must be returned by December 4 so that Nancy can submit the proposal by December 10. Nancy will submit the same proposal to the Clean Lakes Alliance, with an option to fund specific priority sites by December 9.

Newsletter Editors:

January 2014 - Patricia and Jane (Deadline is January 7th.)

April 2014 - Scott and Eric

July 2014 - Jim Kerler and ???

October 2014 - Dan and Joleen

December Meeting: Due to the holiday, the next board meeting will be moved up one week to December 18th.

Announcements:

1. Jane recently attended a Yahara WINs webinar and noticed that the Rock River Coalition was not listed as an interested party. Suzanne moved, Scott seconded, that we ask to become an interested party, motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
2. The Koshkonong Mounds Country Club has been reserved for the 20th Anniversary Celebration on November 2.
3. The Coalition has received a small scale lake grant for the potentially restorable wetland project. Eric suggested a partnership with UW-Whitewater for the GIS mapping components.
4. The Design Like Mad initial meeting is this Friday. There are two nationally known designers participating, so good work is expected to come out of this opportunity. The website is also moving along nicely.

Adjournment: Jane moved, Dan seconded, motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Patricia adjourned the meeting at 5:40 PM and board members stayed to work on the membership mailing.