



## 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, December 10, 2014

**Next Board Meeting:** 1/28/15

**Attending this meeting:** Jane Carlson, Patricia Cicero, Jim Kerler, Joe Zakovec, Dan Lynch, Dave Hoffman, Suzanne Wade, Eric Compas

**Absent:** Jim Koepke,

Call meeting to order at 4:47pm

#### 1. Introductions:

#### 2. Approval of Oct. 22, 2014 Minutes:

Tabled until next board meeting.

#### 3. Announcements:

No new announcements.

#### 4. Treasurer's report:

Suzanne recommends setting up a meeting with Dan, Patricia and Roxanne to go over budget reports. They will communicate to set up time. Dan will consult with his wife (retired CPA) to better organize the budget reports (fund report) and fix discrepancies. Suzanne also stated we need to have a certain type of review because of our acceptance into the Community Shares of Wisconsin.

Budget summary: Dan and Suzanne reported that RRC brought in \$3,274.20 more than expected. The budgeted amount for 2014 was \$36,895.00 and to date the total income is \$40,169.20. Eric noted that memberships are down \$4,179.60, but this does not include the new/renewed memberships that will be received through Dec. 2014.

Jane motioned to accept the treasurer's report, Joe second. Motion carried.

#### 5. Membership Report:

Anonymous donation of \$2000 was given to RRC. Donations larger than \$1000.00 receive a free consultation from the president of RRC. Patricia will set up a time to consult with the anonymous donor.

There are extra envelopes with membership details to give friends and family of the Board

#### 6. Stream monitoring report:

Nancy has been busy with the Yahara WINS year 3 application (meeting 12/11/14).

Discussion on the Endbridge pipeline you tube video being posted on a RRC Facebook page. Jim suggested link it to the WISE Alliance Facebook page. We will not be associating the video with RRC. Nancy will take down the post of the Endbridge street theatre video. Patricia will tell Nancy that anything political will be passed through the board before being posted on FB.

Discussion of there being too many RRC Facebook pages. Currently there are three pages. Patricia will confirm with Nancy that the Yahara WINS facebook page will be deleted and have only the Stream Monitoring Page and the RRC page.

## **OLD BUSINESS-**

### **7. Newsletter:**

Joe and Jane- just started collaborating. Suzanne gave them a list of potential articles. Suzanne suggested a newsletter idea on "wetland use value tax changes." Due date for articles is Jan 6. Dan suggested to continue having RRC chapters contribute one article per newsletter. Eric will provide photos to Joe and Jane. Eric and Dave will work on April's newsletter. Dan and Jim will work on July's newsletter.

### **8. Yahara 2070- workshop recap:**

Suzanne, Nancy, and Jane attended the workshop. All scenarios were presented. They noted that all scenarios were a bit unrealistic, so it was hard to understand the reasoning and goals behind the Yahara 2070 project.

RRC board originally thought of Yahara 2070 as a vehicle to do strategic planning and build relationships with rural land owners. Another workshop is scheduled for Feb. 12. The board will reserve judgment until after this meeting.

### **9. Community Shares of Wisconsin:**

We were accepted!!! Orientation on Dec 19th. Suzanne and Ken Weisner will attend. They are willing to come to a board meeting to visit. January's meeting might work the best. Community Shares has annual dues of \$500. RRC will be receiving about \$500 from Community Shares once they receive all their donations. More to report in January. Eric moved to become members of Community Shares of Wisconsin. Second by Dan. Motion carried.

### **10. 20th Anniversary Celebration:**

Everyone thought overall this was a great event. Total income was \$5739.30. Expenses were \$2292.58 not counting payment to Suzanne for wine glasses. Suzanne will invoice RRC for wine glasses.

We need to try and sell the rest of the wine glasses. Website, Facebook, other events, etc... There are about 80 left and about 40 sold at the event.

Note that many sponsorships were received because of phone calls. RRC board should make a point of conducting follow up phone conversations after initial sponsorship/membership letters are sent.

### **11. Grants:**

Nancy applied for a WE energies grant. Looking into Alliant Energy and Madison Gas and Electric grant.

Applied for two river planning grants from DNR. One grant will be for preparing a report card with data on volunteer stream monitoring data. This will be good for volunteers, the RRC board, and DNR staff to see. Eric mentioned including the hiring of a data programmer to collect the data and organize it properly into the grant. The intent is that once it is set up, future reports will be streamlined.

Suzanne is working on another DNR river planning grant: Spring 2016 paddle event. Suzanne met with Greg Farnham and Jason Valerious. This will provide money to solicit, advertise, plan, and get more people involved. Projected costs for this will be around \$4500.00.

**12. ESRI software expense- Eric:**

Eric discussed the required \$100-200 fee for updating and creating newer maps through the online ESRI software service. The board agreed that updating our current maps and creating new maps would be beneficial in communicating our data with others. Dan motioned to authorize the \$100-200 annual expenditure for the online use of ESRI software. Second by Jim. Motion carried.

**13. TMDL donation:**

-Rock River TMDL Group will be disbanding and they would like to donate their remaining funds to the RRC. \$1400.00 for a match to a river planning grant, and an additional \$3,800.00. Discussion will continue with RRC and the Rock River TMDL Group on where to direct the use of the donation.

**14. Retreat Planning:**

Beginning stages of planning for the RRC Board Retreat. Members recommended talking about the following issues including but are not limited too; strategizing for fundraising, membership recruitment ideas, RRC's mission, and education and outreach to public.

Jane and Patricia will help plan this event. All board members should make a point of attending. Date of retreat TBD.

**15. Petition regarding Ag permit:**

Concerned citizens wrote RRC a letter to share with us the situation of a Jefferson County dairy farm expansion plan and renewal of DNR discharge permit. The secretary will send them a letter of thanks for sharing their concerns.

MOTION to adjourn by Suzanne at 6:36pm. Second by Jim. Motion carried.