

FYRH Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 18, 7:30 AM
DeForest Public Service Building's Conference Room

1. Jim called the meeting to order at 7:33 AM. Doug Porter, John Ackley, Gary Schutte, Jim Simpson and Joleen Stinson were present. Franco Milani was absent. Jim left at 8:45 AM.
2. Appearances before the Committee - NONE
3. Treasurer's report:
 - Joleen requested by email to have Jim update the asset list as things shuffle around (GPS units, laptop, flow meter, etc) but the board decided to wait to update the list in April.
 - During the asset list discussion, it was noted that the Rock River Coalition has borrowed our flow meter, which used to be stored in Barry Eichinger's basement. The Friends will request that any data taken from the use of the flow meter comes back to us and that it be stored with us over the winter. Doug will also follow up with David Paulson for a summary of this year's monitoring season, which should be wrapping up this month. Joleen will share links to the past RRC reports and data.
 - Jim asked Gary if he would be interested in taking over the treasurer's position January 1, 2017, Gary is willing. We will officially vote on the change at a future meeting once Jim gets the chance to talk to Franco.
 - Joleen made a motion to approve the 10-16-2016 Emailed Treasurer's Report and 3^d Quarter Checkbook Ledger & Summary as presented. Gary seconded, motion passed unanimously.
4. Secretary's report:
 - Gary made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2016 board meeting with a corrected document title (said agenda instead of minutes. Doug seconded, motion passed unanimously.
 - No additional comments were made to the notes of the September 20, 2016 working meeting.
5. River Clean-up – REVIEW
 - Doug gave Shaun his recognition plaque at the clean-up
 - Several pairs of waders leaked, we should talk about grant options to buy 12-15 more pairs
 - Doug made a motion to donate \$100 to Steve Falter at Capitol Water Trails for his very professional assistance at the clean-up. Gary seconded, motion passed unanimously.
 - Gary reported that he still had challenges with the community service kids, even with the additional communications with the DeForest Area Court on requirements. There was consensus to limit to 4 next year.
 - We lost our volunteer who monitored for blockages. The Village budgets money annually to remove blockages but without a FYRH volunteer identifying their locations, it is impossible for the Village to contract out removals. Doug will reach out to Steve Falter to see if Capitol Water Trails is interested in doing the survey and removal of blockages. Or we can email a request for help to all of the members to search for volunteers.
6. Lakes and Watershed Commission Meeting – DISCUSSION
 - Thursday, November 10, 5:30 pm in the Library, Lower Level. Room D. Note, this will be a regular board meeting and all board members should attend.
 - Jim and John are willing to help finalize the agenda. Joleen will introduce everyone by email.

7. Dane County Watershed Network – DISCUSSION
 - Wednesday, November 9, 5:30 – 7:30 pm – **Effectively Connecting with the Agricultural Community**. Heidi Johnson (Crops and Soils Educator) and Jennifer Blazek (Dairy and Livestock Educator) from UW-Extension will share their experiences working with the agricultural community in Dane County. They will talk about some of the current realities and challenges facing farms in Dane County, give an overview of agricultural conservation practices and nutrient management plans, and get you up to speed on farmer-led initiatives. Wade Moder (Upper Sugar River Watershed Association) will share the Upper Sugar River group's experience reaching out to, and connecting with, rural partners, as well as their recent experience forming a farmer-led council.
 - Saturday, December 3, 1:00 – 3:30 pm - **Annual Water-related Group Networking Event** During this gathering, each water-related group in Dane County will have the chance to give a quick “3-minute, 3-slide” overview of their major projects and accomplishments over the past year. After the presentations, we will have at least an hour of open networking time to give you the chance to connect with other groups to learn more about projects that piqued your interest. Please **coordinate with your group** to decide who will present and indicate on the registration page if you will be the presenter.
 - These meetings are a great way to learn about and from other water groups. Perhaps there are opportunities for partnership. People to talk to and share ideas about struggles. (Do others have better ways to increase membership, for example.) FYRH has had very sparse attendance or interest in these gatherings. John expressed interested in attending the November meeting on FYRH behalf, but may be out of town for the December one.
8. Yahara River Streambank Stabilization Plans and Timeline – UPDATE
 - We’re still waiting to hear from the DNR re: permit approval.
9. Storage Shed in the Cherokee Marsh Wildlife Area – UPDATE
 - Overall, the shed is coming along. More plastic totes are need. A broken window needs to be boarded up. Large doors have quite a big gap, which needs some shoring up as well. Gary and John scheduled a date to continue this work. Doug will drop off scrap wood.
 - Jim noted that we still need to get a key back from Highfield Terrace Storage Facility.
 - John needs a key for the shed. Doug said he would get a copy made for him. At some point we should ask Shaun for his key back.
10. 2017 Town Planner Discussion (Dates for 2017 events) – UPDATE
 - Fishing Clinic – Saturday, May 20, 2017
 - Annual Meeting – Monday, June 5, 2017
 - Riverfest & Fishing Clinic – Saturday, September 9, 2017
 - River Clean-up – Saturday, October 7, 2017
 - No discussion, just make sure these events are on your calendar.
11. Innovation Drive Bridge – UPDATE
 - Jim would like to know of the on-site meeting date once it is scheduled
12. Woody Debris Removal (Interstate to STH 19) – DISCUSSION
 - To talk about at the joint meeting with the Lakes and Watershed Commission. We hope to solicit the County’s help in blockage removal for this section.
13. Meeting Dates & Times – DISCUSSION
 - Consensus was to continue with monthly morning meetings with the option to set-up special meetings if needed for specific topics, like membership. Jim will build the agenda

so that actionable and important items are first as he needs to leave at 8:30 am to get to work.

14. Public Relations

- Lakes of DeForest – UPDATE
 - John is continuing to research and pursue some type of official group incorporation. There has been some recent email banter both positive and negative on clean-up work.
- Other Contacts or Concerns - NONE

15. Any Other Business

- Joleen shared United Way volunteer days that are looking for projects. They're evenings in October and November. We don't really have anything for the group at this time.
- Jim said that the DOT will be hosting a meeting re: the I-39 corridor study sometime in November. He will share the date when it is available.

16. Adjourn

- Next meeting Thursday, November 10 at 5:30 pm at the library
- Topics for future meetings:
 - Membership
 - Grants
 - Stream monitoring reports
- Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am