

FYRH Working Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, January 24, 7:30 AM (rescheduled from January 17 due to icy road conditions)

DeForest Public Service Conference Room

1. Jim called the meeting to order at 7:34 AM. Doug Porter, Gary Schutte, Jim Simpson and Joleen Stinson were present. Franco Milani and John Ackley were absent.
2. Appearances before the committee: none.
3. Treasurer's report:
 - "Form 5-Domestic Non-stock Corporation Annual Report" and "IRS Form 990-N" were both completed.
 - Jim handed over all the treasurer materials to Gary at the meeting. Gary said he will start using Quickbooks. Joleen will get Gary added to the info@yaharariver.org email forwarding list. Doug thanked Jim for his work as treasurer and Gary for his willingness to take it on.
 - Doug made a motion to approve the 2016 fourth quarter Treasure's Report as presented. Gary seconded, motion passed unanimously.
4. Secretary's report:
 - Gary made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2016 board meeting as presented. Doug seconded, motion passed unanimously.
5. Upcoming Grants:
 - Yahara River Streambank Stabilization: Joleen stated that the Village is very pleased with the streambank stabilization project from 2016. Because of its success, the Village plans to move forward doing another project this year without using the grant program. The Friends can help with potential project location identification, outreach efforts, etc...
 - DeForest Foundation Grant application due 03/01/2017. Gary and Doug will figure out specific requests to bring back to the board's next meeting. Request will included waders and about 15 fishing poles and tackle box resupply. Gary noted that the Yahara Fishing Club can purchase nice poles for ~\$10 each and gets fishing boxes donated from Flambeau. He will use these connections to purchase equipment for us.
 - Small Grants for Environmental Justice due 02/01/2017. This grant focuses on board development, membership outreach and fundraising efforts. Although those topics are things we could use, given the tight deadline consensus was not to apply.
6. World Water Day Event (request to plan an event March 18-26.) Consensus was not to participate.
7. Key Inventory: Jim will continue to figure out the details on this. Discrepancy is likely because we have two different locks (one that Gary bought and one from the old storage facility.)
8. Board Members for next year (2017-2018): It isn't too early to start thinking about if you plan to renew your term and to start recruiting new board members.
 - Jim stated that he will not continue in an officer role and is still thinking about continuing on the board as director.
 - Jim also said that he saw Franco recently and he may choose not to renew his term too. It was noted that Franco does a great job coordinating the River Clean-up, but if he is willing to, he could still do that without being a board member.
 - Joleen shared that she and Kelli Bialkowski will discuss the Village's continued support of the Friends with staff time this spring. She also shared some personal news, that she is expecting twins. So at a minimum, her work for the Friends will have to be picked up by other board members while she is on maternity leave.

9. Inspecting/Surveying the River for Blockages: Joleen has been emailing with Steve from Capitol Water Trails re: blockage survey and removals for the following season. She hopes to have an agreement reached by the next Friends board meeting.
10. Lakes and Watershed Commission Meeting Rescheduled: After Jim responded to Sue Jones in December, he hasn't heard back. He will follow-up to start the reschedule process.
11. Salt Wise Toolkit: No update, John is leading this effort and he could not attend the meeting.
12. Storage Shed in the Cherokee Marsh Wildlife Area : No update, this is really just a placeholder agenda item for Jim to follow-up with Darren Marsh at Dane County to put together the long-term use agreement.
13. IH 39/90/94 Study Public Involvement Meetings: Jim will complete a comment card stating that the Friends would like a bridge over the river instead of a box culvert.
14. Woody Debris Removal (Interstate to STH 19): Doug will start talking to Dane County re: grants or other funding to complete this work.
15. Public Relations:
 - Lakes of DeForest: no update
 - Other Contacts or Concerns: none
16. Any Other Business
 - Jim was contacted by Easter Seals to see if we wanted to organize a clothing drive. Consensus was not to move forward.
 - Barry forwarded an email asking us to participate in Citizens Water Lobby Day on February 8, with a booth at the capital from 11 AM to 3 PM. Consensus was not to move forward.
17. Jim adjourned the meeting at 8:40 AM.
 - Next meeting Tuesday, February 21 at 7:30 AM
 - Topics for future meetings:
 - Membership, Grants, Stream Monitoring Reports...
 - Presentation ideas for annual meeting – maybe Cardno again, Yahara WINS. Board members should bring ideas back to the next meeting.