



April 11, 2018 – Regular Meeting

Cannon Township Hall
6878 Belding Rd, NE 49341

- I. Guest introductions – Guests present: Lance Climie, Trout Unlimited, John Stegmeier, Izaak Walton League, Sally Triant, John Minor, City of Rockford Planning Commission. Dana Strouse, Michigan DEQ
Board members present: Gretchen Zuiderveen, Tricia Anderson, Robert Schirado, Pat Allen, Stu Cok, Robert Stegmeijer, Robert Zbiack.
Members Absent: Jessie Schulte, Brett Vredevoogd, Mindy Minor.
- II. Review, approval of minutes from regular meeting, March 14, 2018
Schirado moved, with support from S. Cok, to approve the meeting minutes, subject to adding members present.

Motion carried unanimously.

III. Reports

A. Financial statement: J. Schulte absent

B. Trout Unlimited: Nichol and Jamie absent. Lance noted that they're having difficulty finding land owners to take advantage of funding available for RCPP to those on the Indian Mill Creek watershed, for forest management, riparian management, etc.

Discussion regarding contacting the specific property owners by mail, as well as putting things on townships' websites.

Gretchen reminded the group that the insect monitoring is coming up on May 5.

D. Strouse mentioned that there is an outreach committee, and presentations may be planned for townships and municipalities.
P. Allen agreed that townships could have a hand in outreach.

C. Sustainability Commission: Mindy absent. G. Zuiderveen noted that municipalities should have a sustainability commission.
Getting on an agenda to make a presentation.

J. Minor noted that Mindy proposed the sustainability committee to the City of Rockford, and showed examples of other communities that have had it – spoke about recycling, reducing waste, composting, etc. to Thad Beard. June 11 at Rockford City Council.

D. Michigan Watershed Summit, Bath, MI: R. Shirado gave a summary of the content presented at the watershed summit. He provided a summary in writing.

E. New website status: Brett absent. Board members meeting with GVSU students on the

F. Five slides from Molly Rippke's E-coli presentation: Gretchen

IV. Discussion Items

A. Pros and cons of a new meeting format: separating board business meeting from public meeting.

- Discussion about moving the meetings to the evenings, giving board updates at Tuesday Talks, etc.
- T. Anderson suggested having the board business first on the agenda, and the discussions after.
- S. Cok indicated that there are many board items that need to be voted on, and there is too much discussion. There is the need to make a commitment to the membership to share the goals for the watershed that are measurable. He suggested a quarterly publication that goes out to the members that provides updates on board business.
- R. Stegmeijer noted that board business should be first, and that evening meetings have their pros and cons. He suggested spring and summer evening meetings due to longer daylight hours, and daytime meetings during the fall and winter.

- Dana noted that the agenda does not often have a format of making decisions on the goals of the watershed. She added that we talk about a lot of things, however making decisions and moving forward on items isn't as often. More needs to be accomplished.
- Sally brought up the idea of having family friendly events to bring people out into the watershed. Tuesday Talks are great, however, she's not bringing her children.
- Many brought up the idea of having an annual meeting with board only.

B. Preliminary membership drive recommendation, snail and/or email
S. Cok

C. Farmers' Market table:

- Sally has volunteered to work the table.
- Raffle tickets to be sold.
- Brett's band might play at the market.
- R. Stegmeijer would prefer August.

D. Update from last month's discussion:

- How to make storm water run-off a priority for municipalities and individuals in the RRW.
- J. Minor gave an update on the upcoming Rockford City Council meetings and Planning Commission meetings regarding the Storm water ordinance.
- Gretchen noted that Nichol DeMol is available to go to any Rockford City Council meeting to advocate for curb-cut rain gardens.

V. Upcoming Events

A. New website roll-out: April 16, GVSU, 3:00

B. Tuesday Talk, April 24th, Sparta, 6:00, at The Cellar Brewery:
(Soil Erosion, Water Quality Degradation, Wildlife Habitat
Development)

C. May 5th: Stream Insect Monitoring, 9-1:00, Rockford Community
Cabin

D. MAY: IRS 990-N Report, Due!