

FLUTE REED PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING JULY 5, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM at Rick's home

Present: Rick, Virginia and Dusty (in person), Richard (by computer), Steve (by phone)

Treasurer's Report:

Virginia reported current balance is \$1615. There is one outstanding bill in the amount of \$38.35 due to Chicago Bay Store. Dave Stark has also submitted a bill in the amount of \$3192. However, due to the State shutdown, he cannot be paid at this time. Our group needs to first collect from the state and we in turn will then pay Stark.

GLRI Tech Committee

Richard gave a summary of what happened at this meeting. Dave Betts, Highway Engineer, mixed up his dates for the meeting and was not in attendance. Soil and Water Board people were present. It appears Cook Co. Hwy. Department does not wish to pursue working on Otis Creek culvert at this time. It was discussed about using money that was to go to replacement of the culvert towards a watershed study instead. It was felt our group seems to be working well with the Soil and Water Board so that it may be a better idea to devote monies from the grant towards working with this group in improving the river banks rather than the Hwy. Dept. A couple of Flute Reed Partnership Board members plan to meet monthly with Soil and Water Board members to further discuss the goals of our group. Jessie Dersheid, the rep. from our area on Soil and Water Board, is planning to walk the watershed area of Otis Creek.

Open House June 30

Steve reported that not many people attended. It was mainly our group along with Dave Stark and Brian Fredrickson in attendance. The consentaneous of group was the projects we have talked about don't appear to be that controversial since not many attended. There were a couple of people from the Stonegate Road area there to voice their concerns about the Otis Creek project.

US Fish and Wildlife Grant

Rick said we have received a 2 year extension of this grant, which is basically for tree planting, in the amount of \$6000, to be used over several years. We were given permission to spend some of the money prior to getting the grant in 2010. Our group did spend \$600 towards trees and fencing, of which we took the money out of our budget. However, Rick has not yet filled out the forms to collect the money from the grant. He's wondering if we still wish to pursue this grant? If we ask for the \$600, we need to follow through to spend the rest of the grant. The group agreed we should continue to pursue the grant at this time. Rick asked Virginia if she would be willing to look at the forms and possibly fill them out if we are to pursue the grant, to which she agreed.

Minnesota Waters

Rick wondered if our group wishes to rejoin MN Waters? The fee to join is \$100 annually. Motion made by Richard, 2nd by Virginia to join for another year. Ayes: all Rick said this group has a mailing list, if anyone would like to get on this list, to inform you as to what they do.

Brochure RE: Flutereed Watershed

Rick has been working with Paul Sandstrom to prepare a draft brochure regarding the Flutereed Watershed and how we, as individuals, can try to maintain it and improve it. These brochures can be placed at possibly the post office and the local store. It can also be sent to people by email, pdf files. There will be no cost to our group for this. It was agreed that Rick could pursue this with Paul to have some brochures printed.

Board Member Term Expiration

Dusty's term expires 7/31/2011. Two other members expire in 2 years and two other members expire in 3 years. Dusty was asked if she wished to stay on. Dusty said she would really prefer not to as she felt she doesn't have the time to put into it that is needed, where someone else might. She suggested getting someone from the Stonegate Road area so they can be more involved with what's going on and inform others in their area also. Rick felt that the Board should include people who own property in the Flutereed watershed. Currently, Richard, Steve and Dusty do and Virginia and Rick are near, but not in it. He felt the replacement should own land in watershed and we could invite people from the Stonegate area to attend if they wish. Richard wondered if we could ask the Soil & Water Board to appoint Jessie D. (or whoever represents our district on their board) to be a board member of this group, possibly as a non-voting member. Rick did not think Jessie could be a Flutereed Board member while he was on the Soil and Water Board, but he could talk to him about it. Steve felt that a person who is in close proximity of the watershed could be a board member. Rick mentioned another possibility would be Chel Anderson.

Bylaw Revisions

Rick had sent out possible revisions by computer to members for review. One revision mentioned limiting membership to Cook County Property owners only. Board members did not feel this was necessary. Another statement in bylaws is: "Membership can be denied by majority of the Board". So if someone applies who we do not feel fits being a member, we could deny them.

Revision to 3b looks good. Revision to G: "The Chair shall determine the time, place and frequency of the meetings" was okayed. It was felt a revision to be added as 4 F could include language to define a coordinator. "One of the responsibilities of the coordinator, who would be appointed by the Board, would be to call membership meetings. They can facilitate the day-to-day operations of the Flutereed Partnership."

Richard felt the minutes of our meetings should be available, upon request, to any member of the partnership in good standing. Rick said he could post them on the website. Virginia moved to post board minutes on our website and they can be emailed to people by request. 2nd by Richard. Ayes: all

Motion made by Richard, 2nd by Steve that in addition to proposed changes mentioned on page 1 and 2 of bylaws, presented by Rick (on computer), language regarding the coordinator will be added. These proposed changes will be emailed to membership in the next week. Ayes: all

Membership can vote yes to make changes or no and email them to Rick or bring their vote to the annual meeting.

Annual meeting

The annual meeting will be held toward the end of July at the Hovland Town Hall. Rick wondered about asking Paul Sandstrom to speak at this meeting. The group thought this would be okay and we could offer to pay him mileage. If Paul is not available, it was felt that someone could ask Shawn Perich to speak. The meeting was set for July 28th from 5 to 6:30 P.M.

Richard said that he would like to see a future topic for this board to be saline wells and how they are affecting our watershed.

Flutereed Partnership Dues

Rick wondered about setting a fee to have lifetime dues. Currently, we have options of \$10/year; \$25/3 years and \$40/5 years. Rick would like to do away with the \$10 fee as he felt it was a hassle to let people know their year was up and in the handling of such a small amount. We currently have 30 – 40 members and it's important to show that our Partnership has members. The dues do not actually bring in that much money to our group, we depend more on grants. It was decided that \$50 would be a reasonable amount for a lifetime membership. It was further felt that to become a lifetime member, a person could just add on to whatever they have already paid that would total \$25. So, if you have already paid \$25, you just need to pay another \$25 and you would then be considered a lifetime member. It was also decided that if someone instead chose to pay the \$10 annual fee, they could still do that.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM