

Flute Reed Partnership Annual Meeting  
July 29, 2010 7 PM  
Hovland Town Hall

Attending: Dusty Nelms, Bruce Blackburn, Richard Olson, Betty O'Brien, Bill O'Brien, Virginia Hahn, Jill Schubert, Janice Hall, Cook County Commissioner, Rick Schubert, FRP Coordinator

All were welcomed and introduced, agenda was approved and Betty's delicious treats shared.

Treasurer's Report: \$1778 in checking account, but the \$625 spent on tree planting this year will be reimbursed by US Fish and Wildlife Grant.

Review of past year's accomplishments:

1. 1100 new trees were planted by 14 volunteers on two Saturdays in May.
2. FRP went after and received Star Grant of \$5000 which was used for:
  - Water quality monitoring at 7 sights on river
  - GIS work—tributaries mapped
  - Flow monitoring of Hwy 61 bridge.
3. We completed our 2 year, \$18,000 Surface Water Assessment Grant. Final reports and all data were submitted to MPCA which replied with "Good Job and Thanks" for completion of project.
4. US Fish and Wildlife Grant for \$6,000 applied for and accepted which will fund tree planting for 2 years. Most of the money will be spent on fencing and t-posts. Our labor provides 50/50 match.
5. GRLI (Great Lakes Restoration Initiative) grant applied for and approved for \$540,000. Planning for this project will be ongoing. This grant will replace one or more culverts on the Arrowhead Trail, repair the new bridge site on North Road and restore some stream banks to reduce erosion. Community outreach is included.

Election of new board members was announced. 14 member votes were received. Richard Olson was elected to a two year term. Rick Schubert and Virginia Hahn were elected to three year terms. All three were elected unanimously. There were no write-in's. Dick Betz had submitted his resignation by letter last week. Two open positions now exist and the new Board will move quickly to fill these vacancies. (The newly elected Board met immediately after this meeting to start work on this.) Jan Hall emphasized the importance of having a strong Board and agreed to join FRP as the County liaison after she consults with Braidy Powers.

Rick and Richard thanked Bruce Blackburn for his professional and personal assistance.

An opportunity to create a Flute Reed River Fact Sheet exists due to contacts with Paul Sandstrom of Laurentian RC&D. A prototype was passed around and all agreed this is an outreach opportunity to pursue.

The Great Lakes Restoration Grant was discussed in more detail. Everyone agreed to the importance of the FRP participating in this large project as project facilitator and outreach organizer. Final approval of the Grant will be received later in the year. It is our intention to hire Dave Stark as project coordinator. An oversight committee from involved partners will be formed as we proceed with implementing this project.

Membership involvement in the FRP was reviewed. In the past FRP has been a member organization operating through consensus. The Board has consisted of committed individuals working together with others attending meetings and FRP activities. We are a grass roots organization of folks committed to improving the Flute Reed River. Richard indicated that we are a unique model of how things can be done with citizens and government working together as partners.

The group talked about outreach in the Hovland community. FRP will join the Hovland Community Club and hopes to hold a social event/potluck and provide ongoing community updates regarding our activities.

Rick was thanked for his continuing efforts with the Flute Reed Partnership.

Meeting adjourned 8:30PM.

Jill Schubert