

Cascade Township River Association Annual Meeting Minutes

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Board Members Present: Todd Hendricks, Steve Siedlecki, Ned Quinn, Lydia Tobian Bill Uecker, Ed Lee, Jeff Coffey, Ron McCollum.

Past Board Members Present: Karen Parent and Scott Rissi.

Attendees: 36 River Association Residents.

The Meeting was called to order by the Association President Ned Quinn at 7:38 pm at the Wisner Center.

Board member self introductions with river locations were completed.

Secretaries report: Steve Siedlecki read the minutes from the 2007 meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was offered and approved on a voice vote.

Treasurers Report: Karen Parent reviewed the Annual Treasurers Report with brief explanation of the expenses. A motion to approve the report as written was offered and approved on a voice vote.

President Ned Quinn asked past President Scott Rissi to spend a few minutes regarding the tree and plaque planted in Tassel Park in the memory of Eric Neitzel. Scott Rissi shared the experiences he had with Eric and highlighted the contributions Eric made to the CTRA. He will be missed indeed.

Elections: Four (4) new positions on the board were offered up by President Ned Quinn. The vacancies are for Treasurer, President and (2) directors. The President Ned Quinn, The directors Ed Lee and Jeff Coffey offered their services for another term. Stacy Parent offered herself for the position of Treasurer. The motion was offered and carried for all four positions on a voice vote.

Sheriff Issues: President Ned Quinn spoke briefly about the meeting from last year with the Sheriff. Ned Quinn explained the CTRA concerns regarding the frequency of stops by the Sheriff. The Sheriff explained stops for safety check and violations will continue within reason.

Channel and Buoy status: Scott Rissi explained various locations of concern on the river with regard stumps and markings.

Zebra Mussels: Scott Rissi offered some insight with regard to pumps a and maintenance of them. Ned Quinn Explained the Zebra Mussels are here to stay.

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Dredging: Ron McCollum has been in contact with DNK Construction from Holland Michigan. Ron explained the process involved with dredging and what the estimated costs might be. Ron asked the members to express any interest they may have in using the dredging services. Ron explained the more people involved in the dredging the lower the costs would be for each river association member. Some comments from the group regarding the history of the railroad bridge and previous attempts to successfully dredge around have been done back in the early 1980's.

Website: Ned Quinn explained the website has been a slow process and offered his apologies. Ned offered the group may have some input and any help that could be offered would be graciously accepted.

Water Testing: Ned Explained the costs involved with a professional testing corp and a decision to try and continue to use the services of Rusty Trapp. Rusty offered his services once again for the continuation of the compilation of data to indicate trends.

New Business:

Picnic 2008: Ned Quinn asked the members present what they would like to see for the 2008 Picnic. Many residents vocally asked that the Ski Show be held again in 2008. Many residents heard of the ski show after it was completed and were sorry they missed it. Ned Quinn asked the group what portion of the picnic and ski show the year's budget should endure; the members said 100% of the cost should be carried by the membership budget with no one needing to seek donations. The motion was offered and carried on a voice vote. Other specifics with regard to who will pay for the food and the band were discussed and hopefully as in the past these could be donated by those who did so last year.

The issue of the 2008 Picnic and Ski Show location was discussed. The site used last year is no longer available so a new site will have to be found. A number of suggestions were given from the group but a specific location was not able to be determined at the meeting. The picnic will be held at a location to be determined on the 26th of July.

Some discussion of holding a fireworks show by a professional was discussed. The cost was rumored to be around \$4000.00. Many of the members thought that was a lot of money but some members of the board stated there were offers for donations for nearly a third of the cost already. The member stated it would be okay to hold a fireworks show if the costs could be generated from donations.

Boaters Safety Course: Ned Quinn stated the Kent County Sheriff offered a boaters safety course for boaters. Ned stated he would arrange the course on a day agreeable to those who want to take the course and the costs would be nothing more than a donation of around \$10 to cover the room rental and any other fees.

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Q & A: A number of questions were fielded by various members of the board from the group. Most of them were general informational items and questions from new residents who were welcomed to the area.

With no other items or questions on the agenda President Ned Quinn adjourned the meeting at 9:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Steve Siedlecki
CTRA Board Secretary