

Cascade Thornapple River Association
Annual Meeting Minutes April 21st, 2009
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Before the meeting was to begin President Ned Quinn asked River resident Chuck Whitley to explain the recently updated website. www.cascadethornapple.com Chuck has volunteered his time and services for the creation of the website Chuck went through the website highlights in detail so the membership would be familiar with its content.

Once Chuck was finished the CTRA President Ned Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:28. There were 54 residents in attendance plus the board members.

Old Business:

First order of business was to review the meeting minutes from last year's annual meeting. A motion to approve the meeting minutes to be approved with the correction of changing the word "members" to "membership" under the second paragraph of the section entitled Picnic 2008 was given and approved on a voice vote.

Treasurers Report:

The treasurer's report was offered by Treasurer Stacy Parent. Stacy went over the financials with the group. The attendees were offered a copy of the report and it was reviewed briefly. A motion to approve the report as written was given and it was approved on a voice vote.

Board Member Elections:

President Ned Quinn offered Bill Uecker, Todd Hendricks and Steve Siedlecki for re-election. Another candidate, Andrew Gill was offered as a board member by Ned Quinn. Ned Quinn asked if there were anyone else who wished to be a board member. The attendees were silent. A Motion on the floor was made to approve all four board member positions in one vote, the motion was seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Dredging:

Steve King from D & K Construction was invited to the meeting to offer his opinion regarding the possibility of dredging areas of concern on the river. Steve King has toured the river and held a discussion while pointing out certain areas of interest on the map. Steve King took questions from the group regarding certain areas and stated the initial cost for the permits and surveys would be \$300-\$500 and the actual dredging numbers would vary by each specific location. Scott Rissi asked what the typical dredging depth might be and Steve King stated usually four and a half to five feet. President Ned Quinn asked if a cost savings might be realized if the sediment could be dumped at the Golf Course and Steve King responded yes they would discount for that if it could be done.

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Steve King continued and fielded various questions from the membership and Ned Quinn continued the discussion with specific regard to the bypass at the train bridge. Board member Bill Uecker stated his thoughts regarding areas such as the Burger Bayou who have filled in almost to the point of not having any water in it. The construction of areas such as the 36th street interchange and the Gerald R. Ford international airport were believed to have been mainly responsible for the addition of sediment to the area. What role the township may or may not take in this issue remains to be seen. More conversation was held about the difficulty in dredging around the railroad bridge. This would involve receiving permission from the railroad. Many of the members voiced a concern over the cost involved and red tape associated with this. Since this was the case, a decision by the members was made to discontinue any further discussion about dredging around the train bridge. Steve King left brochures and contact information for anyone who wished to employ their services.

Channel And Buoy Status:

Scott Rissi was asked to comment on the channel and buoy status. Scott went through a detailed explanation of stump locations and the status of markers and buoys. The membership was asked if they thought it would be prudent to remove some of the river debris for safety reasons. A motion was made to authorize a discretionary \$2500 towards removing hazardous items such as logs and debris, the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Zebra Mussels:

Ned Quinn offered an update stating there is little we can do about them but reminded the group to clean their boat thoroughly if they have been in other waters before placing their boat back in the River.

Water Testing:

Rusty Trapp has offered his continuation of services in 2009. Rusty will offer the results when they are given.

New Business:

Picnic 2009 – The membership was asked what the interests were for the picnic. There were several questions regarding the band and last year's suggestion regarding fireworks. Other suggestions included a wakeboard competition or a venetian parade and festival. Action Water Sports was mentioned as a possibility for a wakeboard clinic. A vote for several choices was given by a show of hands and the overwhelming winner by vote was a Pig Roast, a band and inflatable play toys for the kids. There was a motion for a vote of possible theme at the board's discretion taking into account the voices heard at the meeting. A motion to allow the board to make the decision based on input received from the membership and the board's discretion was offered and approved on a voice vote.

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Boat Driver Class:

Ned Quinn mentioned this again as in the past. If there is enough interest we will be able to hold the class. Please e-mail CTRAssociationmail@gmail.com if you wish to be a part of this.

Boat Ramp Association / Boat Ramp Accessibility:

In years past membership has actively asked the board to entertain this possibility. This was discussed at some length. Many possibilities exist. By a show of hands several members said they need access. The board will investigate this and report back the findings to the membership.

2010 Dues:

Ned Quinn asked what the 2010 membership rate should be. A motion on the floor was offered to continue the current rate of \$35.00, a second was given and the motion carried to keep it \$35 per year.

Open Discussion:

A few general questions were taken by the board.

Other items:

With no other items on the agenda the meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.