

Friends of the St. Joe River Association
Board Meeting Minutes June 16, 2022
Respectfully submitted: Carolyn Grace

Meeting called to order by Matt Messman at 1:04 pm

Board Present: Chris Temple, Eric Kerney, Carolyn Grace, Danielle Meersman, Carol Higgins, Daragh Deegan, Jeff Reece, Kim Sinclair, and Grant Poole

Others Present: Terri Loomis, Alan Backler, Julia (Pokagon Band Intern), Jill Swartz, Sarah Fronczak, Doug McLaughlin, and Dan Robinson

Minutes: Darragh Deegan motioned to accept the May Minutes, Chris Temple second, motion passed

Treasurers Report: Kim Sinclair sent report to board which is attached and thanked Matt and Danielle Meersman for all the extra help they have provided when she was not in attendance.

Old Business:

No business was conducted via email this past month.

August business meeting: Terri Loomis has secured Conservation Park in Three Rivers for the August 25 meeting. This will be an in-person meeting and there was much rejoicing

New Business:

Dan Robinson will have a booth at the Three Rivers Water festival with FotSJR materials and t-shirts. He hopes to have a trivia question about the River that when answered correctly, a t-shirt will be given.

July will not have a meeting and then Aug 25th will be in person.

Matt asked the board to begin thinking about candidates for the Watershed stewardship Award.

Other Items

Alan Backler would like help with an educational project he is working on for IN and MI schools. He has a few lessons that would accompany the St. Joseph River documentary film and teach students about the watershed. Several volunteers from the board and public expressed interest to help accomplish this wonderful project. Alan will reach out to those interested with important information.

Doug McLaughlin shared new and exciting news about Earth Views, a Company that will be taking the St. Joseph River inventory imagery data and putting it online for the public to use. The 360 degree view will open up so many possibilities for a person who cannot get on the river, but wants to experience the river. Doug and Carolyn will be working with others like Terri Loomis to continue to collect data with the GoPro 360 max, and then input the data to Earth Views to make it usable.

Dan Robinson did a story about the information from the GLRI project with WMUK news. Check that out on their webpage for a short video and story about that on going project.

Kim Sinclair shared that on July 27th @ 4:30pm all are invited to the Van Buren County Conservation District annual meeting and visit to the Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery.

No other reports from the floor.

Jeff Reece motion to adjourn at 1:50 pm, Danielle Meersman supported and meeting was concluded.