

**FREP Executive Committee Meeting, Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 11 AM
Old Kendall County Court House, Yorkville**

Present: Karen Miller, Jason Pettit, Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller, Jeff Mengler, Holly Hudson, Deanna Doohaluk, Becky Hoag, Nancy Williamson

Minutes from May 21, 2008 and September 24, 2008 Executive Committee Meetings were distributed. Holly Hudson made an amendment to the 9-24-08 minutes to state which grants were awarded through the EPA 319 Grant Program. Corrections will be made from using "I" to the person's name in minutes from 9-24-08, and correction of Deanna's last name on the Minutes from 5-21-08.

Jeff moved, Jason seconded approval of all the minutes.

Treasurer's Report Jason did not have a complete report ready but said that membership dues are coming in and he will be preparing a report.

EA Report & C2000 Update Nancy says at this time that there will not be money coming at this time for grants. The latest word is that we do have to stay with grant cycle that has a February 28, 2009 deadline.

Nancy stated that at a meeting presented by CMAP for Chicago Wilderness about Developments of Regional Importance (DRIs). Patty Werner, of Upper Des Plaines Partnership, suggested that ecosystem partnerships be included in entities able to give input and recommendations to the process. The importance of forest preserve districts having input was emphasized as well.

FREP should send a letter of support allowing natural resource agencies, such as ecosystem partnerships, forest preserves and conservation districts to identify DRIs for review. Jeff will provide a draft to Karen and she will share with the Executive Committee before sending. Discussion on why and how FREP would get involved. If partnerships were included, they would need to develop some type of criteria in dealing with the process.

Kane County Riverboat Grant due January 9, 2009. Karen suggested we focus on identifying issues of importance. Suggestions: green Infrastructure; environmental effects of the economic downturn; SWAT process, which would require additional consultants; rain garden promotion. The rain garden promotion project was further discussed, with the idea of working with KDSWCD, U of I Extension, Lt. Governor Quinn, and consultants, such as Hey and Tallgrass, who have existing projects. The actual installation of a rain garden would be a goal. Upper Des Plaines Partnership did such a project already and Jeff can get us information. Becky and Elizabeth will work on putting the grant proposal together. Need to consider how to monitor the project and provide data.

EPA 319 Grant Holly discussed how can FREP be involved in the next grant cycle. She confirmed that EPA does value FREP's review and input process. The program is changing and the new application form will be available late winter/early spring. The focus will remain on implementation projects at the small watershed scale. Region V is evolving toward focusing on tributaries/small watersheds. Nancy suggested it might be time for FREP to start encouraging another subwatershed group to get formed.

Holly suggests the Water Resources Committee needs to be revitalized. Deanna is able to continue as chair. CMAP is still discussing their future role in administering EPA 319 Grants.

Patagonia Grant Karen made contact with them and we can discuss at a future meeting. Jeff said that REI

also gives grants.

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CMAQ GoTo 2040 Partnership Holly described the program and suggested that FREP sponsor a Noon Network on this for February 18, 2009. We will work out the topics to focus on.

Building Watershed Capacity Workshop Holly and Karen attended. They are exploring what technical assistance we need as local, grassroots organizations.

Conversations About Conservation With Our Legislators Phone conference on December 8 with the planning committee.

Election of Officers Will take place at the January 14, 2009 meeting. Bill Donnell is serving as chair of nominations and will prepare a slate.

Music CD Fundraiser Becky with talk to Steve P. and see if we can purchase a few and sell off Website and at meetings.

Meeting adjourned to start Membership Meeting.

Prepared by Becky Hoag, on behalf of the Secretary