

Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 20, 2010
Judson University, Elgin

Present: Karen Miller, Katie Parkhurst, Holly Hudson, Deanna Doohaluk, Rob Linke, Tim Pollowy, Bill Donnell, and Becky Hoag.

President Miller called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

Minutes from September 16, 2009 and November 18, 2009- Doohaluk made a motion to approve the November 18, 2009 minutes and Donnell seconded. Voice vote noted all ayes, motion carried. Doohaluk made a motion to approve the September 16, 2009 minutes with the corrections noted at the last meeting and Hudson seconded. Voice vote noted all ayes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report—Miller reported that no treasurer's report was provided.

Budget Preparation—Miller and Hoag reviewed the proposed budget for the year, noting that funds are tight. Discussion was had that the by-laws should be amended to include specific language as to approving a budget on an annual basis. Donnell suggested naming the budget for the years it covers since the fiscal year is July 1 –June 30. For example, the budget discussed would be FY '10-'11. Linke will draft language for the by-laws relating to creating, reviewing and approving the budget.

Donnell suggested an annual donation drive in November. This would be a great opportunity for people to make their year-end tax deductible donation and FREP would benefit. It would be great if this could be tied to a specific project to increase revenue.

EPA 319 Grants—Hudson announced that IEPA is working on a new application for the 319 grants that will be online. The water resources committee will test this application before it is used. The water resources committee will be available to assist applicants to write better grants.

Grant-Seeking for Northeastern Illinois Ecosystem Partnerships—Hoag is working on submitting for a grant from BP for regional support to fund administrative positions for ecosystem partnerships within northeastern Illinois. Hoag stated the grant request will be for \$80,000 over a two year period to be split among four partnerships.

Hudson mentioned the possibility of receiving some funding through the 604B funding that CMAP will be receiving. Hoag will prepare an outline of costs associated with updating the FREP website and submit this to Hudson.

Wildlife Action Plan—Hoag shared the draft of the report that Williamson prepared trying to show that the Ecosystem Partnerships can serve as the Conservation Opportunity Areas (COA). Any comments should be forwarded to Hoag by next week.

Riverboat Grant, Kane County Rain Garden Initiative—Hoag mentioned that the April 21st Noon Network will be a rain garden demonstration at U of I Extension Service Research Center. April 24th will be a workshop in the morning to teach people about rain gardens and then a public open house in the afternoon to show them the rain garden. Discussion regarding payment of the grant funds and U of I Extension invoice followed. Hoag and Pollowy will work together to address the issues.

2010 Conversations About Conservation with our Legislators—Parkhurst announced that the Government Relations Committee is setting up a meeting to discuss this program. Hoag mentioned possible cooperation with the Fox Water Way Agency co-hosting the program this year.

FREP Website Redo—Hoag stated she is beginning to work on the overhaul to the website.

Cook County Watershed Management Ordinance—Miller stated Mengler and/or Skrukud will report on this at the next meeting since they have been attending the meetings.

Officer Elections—Donnell announced the slate of officers is Tim Pollowy, President; Vice President is open at this time; Jason Pettit, Treasurer; and Katie Parkhurst, Secretary.

Fox River Study Group Liaison—Miller stated that Paul Anderson is currently the liaison for FREP and he would like to be reappointed. Discussion regarding all board positions followed mentioning that reports are needed at each meeting, even if the board member cannot attend the meeting. Further discussion suggested the possibility of changing the meeting times to better accommodate people's schedules.

Donnell made a motion to reappoint Paul Anderson as the FRSG Liaison and Linke seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion carried.

Lake County Vision for Land Preservation—Miller stated Tim Girmscheid spoke at the Membership Meeting in November regarding this plan. He is looking for FREP to endorse the plan. Doohaluk made a motion to endorse the Lake County Vision for Land Preservation and Linke seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion carried.

Noon Networks and Future Meetings—Hoag mentioned that a May program and meeting location is still needed.

New Business—Donnell mentioned that Aurora is working on a combined sewer overflow program. Doohaluk mentioned the IEPA is working on stormwater regulations.

Adjourned—at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Parkhurst
FREP Secretary