

Fox River Ecosystem Partnership  
**Membership Meeting**  
Wednesday, May 19, 2010  
Old Kendall County Court House, Yorkville

Present: Katie Parkhurst, Holly Hudson, Tim Pollowy, Deanna Doohaluk, Ken Gorrwsky, Karen Clementi, Andrea Cline, Matt Bardol, Jason Pettit, Paul Burd, Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller, Karen Miller, Becky Hoag, Rob Linke, John Church, Bill Donnell, and Valerie Burd.

President Pollowy called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.

Minutes from March 17, 2010—Doohaluk made a motion to approve the March 17, 2010 minutes and Pettit seconded. Voice vote noted all ayes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report—Pettit stated the current balance is \$6223.99.

Ecosystem Administrator—Pollowy stated that no report was provided.

EPA 319 Grants—Hudson and Doohaluk reported that the water resources committee has received five draft grant applications. The committee will be meeting to review the grant applications and meet with the applicants on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Highest priorities for these grants are watershed plans and full scale implementation projects. The new application has now been posted on the website.

Replacement of Habitat Committee Chair and Co-Chair of Government Relations—Pollowy announced that Jeff Mengler had to resign from FREP due to job requirements, although he will still maintain a FREP membership at a personal level. John Church will continue on as chair of government relations and would be open to a co-chair person. The Habitat Committee was very active in assisting people with C2000 grants when funding was available for those grants. The Committee activity level is determined by the Chair and committee members. This Committee may become more involved with the Conservation Opportunity Areas as this portion of the IDNR Wildlife Action Plan is implemented. Committee chairs are members of the executive committee of FREP. If anyone is interested they should contact Pollowy.

Aurora Summer Solstice Event, Saturday, June 12—FREP will be participating in this new event this year. Pollowy will be giving a presentation on rain gardens and Hoag will have a booth at the event. If anyone has booth display ideas, please contact Hoag.

Conservation Foundation's "Citizens Guide to Preserving the Fox River"—The Conservation Foundation is considering putting together a book on the Fox River watershed. Paul Burd has experience putting together this type of booklet. He would take all the photographs and sell advertisements (this pays for the cost of the book and publishing) and Valerie Burd would write all the stories. FREP would be a partner in the project to assist Paul and Valerie in discovering the unique places of the Fox River and providing names of people they should talk to for stories. The book would provide human interest stories, maps and basic information plus websites where people could find more information on topics of interest. Matt Bardol and John Church agreed to be FREP liaisons to the Conservation Foundation if this project moves forward. Hudson made a motion to support the efforts of the Conservation Foundation in publishing a "Citizens Guide to Preserving the Fox River," and Bardol seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion carried.

Membership Campaign—Bardol inquired about a way to get more municipalities, park districts and forest preserve districts involved with FREP. Hoag stated many of those groups are members; however they do

not regularly attend meetings. Bardol inquired about hosting the meetings at the city hall or park district offices to see if that would help have staff representation at the meetings. Donnell stated they show up for the grant meetings; otherwise the topic has to be relevant to have the staff show up. Hoag said we try to plan meetings and noon networks throughout the watershed and involve these different entities and are open to new opportunities.

BMP Survey—Doohaluk announced she is collecting data on stormwater BMP's in the area. Please email her if your agency has existing BMP's. From the data collected, she will then go out and test a sampling of the BMP's to see how they are really functioning in this area. This data will then be available to show what BMP's are working in this area with the soil and weather conditions.

Programs for the Year—Please send any program ideas to Hoag. The calendar is very open for meeting topics and noon networks. One idea is to feature a program on recreation, such as fishing or paddling.

Riverboat Grant, Kane County Rain Garden Initiative—Pollowy announced he met with Barb and Vic to discuss the interpretive signage for the U of I rain garden. They will do the sign design and FREP will pay for the sign, as part of the grant agreement. Hoag explained the scope of the remainder of the grant needs to be defined to apply for an extension of the grant. Pollowy mentioned Holy Angels School is interested in a rain garden. An eighth grader did a science fair project showing how a rain garden cleans and filters water. This is a display idea that FREP could use to explain the benefits of rain gardens. Hudson mentioned Gail Borden Library in Elgin is also planning a rain garden. Hagen-Moeller explained the rain garden school curriculum is geared towards middle schools. Hoag will prioritize the revised scope of grant work to be: work with Gail Borden Library to assist them with the rain garden, work with Holy Angels school to install a rain garden, create a display that can be used at events to demonstrate rain gardens, and create interpretive signage for agencies that have installed rain gardens.

Conversations about Conservation with our Legislators—The Committee is planning a September Conversations in the northern part of the watershed. FREP will co-sponsor with the Fox Waterway Agency. More details will be provided as the time gets closer.

New Business/Old Business—A replacement representative is needed for the Fox River Study Group. Doohaluk volunteered to be the representative until someone else steps up since she already attends FRSG and FREP meetings. Doohaluk will ask the water resources committee if someone would be willing to fulfill this role. This representative would also become a member of the FREP Executive Committee.

Adjourned—at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Parkhurst  
FREP Secretary