Present: Karen Miller, Maggie Soliz, Nancy Williamson, Jeff Mengler, Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller, Dan Lobbes, Katie Parkhurst, Holly Hudson, Candice Jacobs, Becky Hoag, Andrea Cline

1) Call to Order 11:12
2) Approval of Minutes for 9-16-15: Candice motioned to approve, Holly seconded. Approved.
3) Treasurers Report: A Treasurer’s Report was passed around. In the past Becky has submitted office expenses. This year she has paid for them herself, including DamNation. We have not had a budget since 2014. Jeff made a motion to approve the report. Elizabeth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Budget Approval: Through June 30, 2016. Jeff made the observation that we are losing 15-20% in dues annually.

Maggie asked if phone calls have been made to groups with outstanding dues. No, letters were sent. Nancy asked if municipalities use FREP for NPDES permit support. There was discussion of Becky working with FRSG to do their education and outreach. Maggie came across a grant opportunity from U.S. EPA. Becky asked about the role of FREP promoting model ordinances. Jeff made a motion to adopt the budget as a working budget. Dan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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Membership development for 2017: Meet February 10th after the noon network. Jeff will talk to Melissa at Morton Arboretum to line up the noon network on regional trees initiative at Hickory Knolls. Becky will secure the location. Andrea will take the database of previous year’s membership and make into one list.

Elizabeth and Jeff are meeting with Matt at the bank this Friday to change the accounts.

4) Annual Elections: Katie announced the slate: Jeff, President, Maggie, VP, Elizabeth, Treasurer, Andrea, Secretary.
5) Changes to Executive Committee: Karen will serve as the National Water Trails advisor. Government Relations Advisor will be Katie. Katie mentioned that the Advisors are a way to get other members involved. Elizabeth noted corrections in her and Candice’s contact information. Any changes should be sent to Becky.
6) National Water Trails Update: Core development team has been created. Openlands is being approached to provide mapping assistance, but they need a funding source. CMAP has also volunteered. Need to have the ability to map the entire watershed. Dan suggested Dave Holman as a mapper. Nancy mentioned talking to Chicago Wilderness. Nancy thinks they might have funding. The committee needs to collect a lot of existing conditions information. Rock River Trail is a National Water Trail and has a member sitting on the core development team. They have put together a mission statement, a vision statement, and goals. They are working on putting together a steering committee next. Nancy asked if Karen is working with the IDNR trails person. Nancy will get the contact information to Karen. Karen thinks there will be a two to three year timeline. Holly mentioned that McHenry is doing a similar project through the LTA program.

7) 4th Annual Summit, March 18, 2016: Jeff has not heard anything from Tom. Becky would like something from Tom for the next Downstream.
8) Watershed Planning and Implementation Activities: Holly reported that Boone Dutch is almost done. It has been sent into Illinois and U.S. EPA for review. Implementation will begin in March.
9) Meeting Program and Noon Network Schedule: next meeting noon network in February. Jeff will work on speaker, Becky will work on space. Becky said we’re good up to May 11. Katie said Algonquin will present on the Woods Creek Watershed and host. June will be noon network. July is social. August is open. Nippersink restoration and tile removal in June in Glacial Park. Vern S. August 10th
10) Old Business
   a. Strategic Plan review – Becky will send out an email.
   b. Clear Choices from the Summit – educational promotional package. Becky thinks we have to pay for each community and it would be too expensive. We could do a pilot community.
11) New Business: None
12) Adjournment: Jeff moved for adjournment, Karen seconded. Adjourned 12:45 PM Minutes submitted by Andrea Cline