FREP Membership Meeting Minutes  May 8, 2019  Prairieview Center, Crystal Lake

Present: Jeff Mengler, Elizabeth Hagen-Moeller, Holly Hudson, Nancy Williamson, Karen Ann Miller, Trish Beckjord, Maggie Soliz, Cindy Skrukrud, Nancy Cox, Beck Hoag, Ders Andersen, Sarah Duple, Josh Singer, John Fuller, Nancy Schietzelt, Jim Condon, Bill Cox, Mike Lesperance, Sarah Voska

Call to order: 1:10 p.m.     Introductions of all present

Approval of minutes from 1/8/19: Beckjord moved and Williamson seconded. Approved.

NEED NAME, Education Director of Prairieview Center gave an overview of the 1,100 acres facilities.

Treasurer’s Report & Budget Review: Hagen-Moeller presented the latest financial statement. Cash balance as of 4/30/19 is $4,213.92. She noted that the Fiscal Year is July 1 to June 30. Soliz moved and Miller seconded. Treasurer’s report approved. FREP is fiscal agent for the Fabulous Fox Water Trail project and will be receiving $10,000 soon to cover distribution of the new brochure. A budget for FY20, approved by FREP Executive Committee, was presented.

The annual FREP dues mailing will be sent out to current members in June.

Remarks on 2019 Fox River Summit and One Earth Film Festival (OEFF): The Fox River Summit is an annual event for WI and IL. It was held in Burlington, WI on March 23 and well attended. The next Fox River Summit will be in Burlington on Thursday, March 26, 2020.

“The Human Element” @ Waubonsee for OEFF received a good turnout. Our co-sponsors are on board for next year. The date would be Monday, March 9, 2020.

Grand Victoria Letter of Intent: Mengler will submit a letter of intent asking for $30,500, for a green infrastructure education campaign, which is revised from what FREP submitted 2 years ago. It was suggested the campaign target municipal decision makers.

Fabulous Fox Water Trail: Much time and effort has been extended by Karen Miller and the team players. They are making a great deal of progress, with a new website and brochure.

Fox River Study Group Update: 2022 due to EPA. Showing nutrient and algae decline.

2019 Meetings/Noon Networks Planning: Current schedule listed on agenda. Finalizing plans for several of the programs, including a July paddling trip, in place of the FREP annual picnic. Working with Friends of the Fox River to arrange.

SubWatershed News: Hudson reported on the Mill Creek Watershed planning which is evolving with the area communities. There was a discussion of IEPA 319 Grants and that they can still be pursued. There is interest in organizing a new Blackberry Creek group, to work with the plan created several years ago. Skrukrud shared that the Nippersink group is holding successful clean-ups.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: 1:15 p.m.

Program: The speaker on Rights-of Way as Habitat Working Group was unable to be present. Other similar easement habitat work in McHenry County was shared and discussed. Notably this included projects by McHenry Township in their road rights-of-way. Soliz updated us on Chicago Wilderness and it’s refocusing on goals. 1) AG community; 2) watershed protection 3) utilize utility corridors for environmental impact.

Minutes Submitted by Nancy Cox, Secretary