

## **FREP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 11 AM Oswegoland Park District, South Point Facility**

Attendees: Jeff Mengler, Alyse Olson, Jessica Mino, Rob Linke, Karen Miller, Becky Hoag, Holly Hudson (zoom), Proxy from Soliz

1) Call to Order 11:17 AM

2) Approval of Minutes from 4-12-2023 & 1-11-2023

Linke motioned to approve 1-11-23 minutes, seconded by Miller. Approved.

Linke motioned to approve 4-12-23 minutes, seconded by Miller. Approved.

3) Treasurer Update & Bank Questions – Jeff Mengler

Kat Gerdts at KDSWCD is unable to be treasurer. Jeff has talked with Sarah Voska at Bluestem. She indicated Elly Flemming of Bluestem will consider serving as treasurer. Jeff is now able to access online banking. Melissa Young from Harris Bank is helping Jeff. Discussion about FREP balance and the Fox River Trail balance. Question about future needs for Fox water trail account. Karen does not see a big change in the funds FREP is holding as the Trail fiscal agent. Much of the upcoming grant money from American Rescue Plan Fund is going through Kane County. Becky explained the additional information in the Financial Report about annual expenses she incurs and pays for out of her stipend.

4) FREP Registered Agent - KDSWCD to vote 5/11/23 at board meeting to approve registered agent to continue through them.

5) FREP Visioning Work Update

Lucas will provide summary and then send out a survey to membership for feedback. Can use Constant Contact list to distribute.

6) 2023 Meetings/Noon Networks/Activities:

**June 14, 2023** FREP Noon Network - Brewster Creek Forest Preserve (formerly Camp Tu Endie Wei) Brewster Creek Dam Removal Project – 20 years later. Go over history of project. Linke unable to attend. Mengler will arrange to involve people (many now retired) who were involved in the project.

**July 12, 2023 – 3pm** FREP Annual Picnic - Pingree Grove Forest Preserve, Kane County (reserved)

Program about project there that Hey is overseeing. Plan on potluck with Jeff grilling.

**August 9, 2023** FREP Noon Network - The Conservation Foundation's tour of new Belrose Farm property

This will be walking tour. Need details on where to meet/park. Just north of Dayton Bluffs and connects with other areas TCF has preserved. Suggest carpooling.

**September 13, 2023 FREP Meeting & Program**

Sarah Voska presenting about engaging young people in ecosystem restoration. Need a location, north, Barrington area.

**October 11, 2023 FREP Noon Network** Suggested visit Bison at Fermilab and other bison herds in area need suggestion for bison expert to involve. Hudson can provide information on this.

November 8, 2023 FREP Meeting & Program

Program suggestions: Environmental Justice topic or remote presentation on bats (Mengler contact)

Mengler contact about bats or addressing oil spill issues (table for now) Hoag suggested this could be an article in Downstream

**December Holiday Party** – Linke offering to host again. Ask Pam Otto to do program on owls/night creatures

7) Fabulous Fox! Water Trail update– Karen Ann Miller

Currently waiting on decision from Sec. of Interior which could come on June 3, National Trail Day

Miller has been contacting WI landowners about signage in the State and she met with some success. She is overseeing the current signage project. Signs made by Kane County and she distributed to McHenry, Lake, Kendall counties for access site locations. Working on feasibility of access points and how dam removal will affect this. Working with Art Malm from FOTFR on the dam issues. Renewing Fabulous Fox! Water Trail's membership in River Management Society. Share Kane's marketing plan with the other counties. They are working with Gilmore Marketing of Elgin.

8) OEFF – second location—discussed how much work it has been for both Hoag and Mino. McHenry County College would be a good location and perhaps Flint Creek-Spring Creek Partnership might be interested in sponsoring next year. Need to address if FREP/TCF will continue coordinating, given how much work it has been and a much bigger attendance was seen through streaming. Note: McHenry Co Comm College did sponsor an OEFF film in 2023.

9) Subwatershed News – Holly Hudson is wrapping up Indian Creek Watershed Plan end of June. Tyler Creek Coalition has new brochure and was at Elgin Earth Summit.

10) Old Business - None

11) New Business - None

12) Adjournment 12:55

Minutes submitted by Becky Hoag, substitute secretary