

## **Iowa Whitewater Coalition Board Meeting Minutes**

Jan. 20, 2008

Office of Michael Sharp, CPA, Ankeny

**Board members present:** Debbie Neustadt, John Wenck, Julie Mankel, Nate Hoogeveen, Lyle Danielson.

**Others present:** Don Propst

John indicated he was willing to be president if Lyle was looking for someone to step up.

**Previous meeting's minutes:** Lyle recommended striking second sentence of item I and IV. Nate moved, John seconded. Ayes have it.

**Treasurers report:** Julie said that a couple memberships and a contribution came in. Otherwise not much activity. Financial statements attached.

**Annual meeting preparation:** The letter is ready to go. No tickets will be issued. Sign up online through paypal or get checks. Should give receipts at the banquet. Is on Web site, Lyle will put up link from main page. Julie said she'd send out a receipt form.

John and Lyle will discuss the program. Will have model dam, table, brochures. Scott will be at the door. Nate will bring screen and PA.

**Fraser:** Nate will call for volunteers for the 29<sup>th</sup> of March for the 1<sup>st</sup> workday. There will be a rain date in April. Will send out drawing.

**Don Propst** joined and gave an update of the Clean Rivers Team efforts. Spring was flooded. The good month was July. Between CRT and Project AWARE, all but 8 miles of the river has been covered by clean-ups in the past two years. 19 people and 19 canoes joined the effort. He gave stats on amounts collected. Also included were a deep freeze, 2 kitchen sinks, a refrigerator, etc. One bad deal were over 200 canoeists near Auburn who trashed the river the day before Don cleaned it up. This was discouraging, as he'd put up flyers in the area about the clean-up, and no one showed up for that but they did show up to party the previous day and throw out beer cans, plastic shot tubes, etc. Hard to turn out locals.

\$6,176 remains in the CRT budget. Don had talked with Linda Appelgate, maybe hiring a person and a leased truck would help (too many miles on his own vehicle). 3 events per year. Linda had made a book he could take to people for sponsorships. 2 locals total for the year. He'd be willing to raise funds if he can speak to the heads of companies.

A number of possibilities were discussed, including refocusing efforts of the Clean Rivers Team in some other way. It was decided that the 8 remaining miles of the North Raccoon should definitely be cleaned up this summer. July 12 was suggested for a clean-up from Richey Park to Hyde Park access.

Lyle moved to do the July 12 event. John seconded. Ayes have it.

Lyle also brought up adopting Commerce Ledges.

Don said three events is probably enough for a season. He will determine how to proceed and notify the board – Don also requested any ideas and said he'd really like to hear them.

**CSO Expo:**

- a) Feb. 8-10 model dam, Lyle and John will bring. John agreed to be point person for volunteers.
- b) Max Wellhouse in CF wants a statewide org. Lyle said as trying to get a number of specific things done, wanted to make sure group still wasn't interested in being this. Debbie said we need to say no, and said there may be disadvantages in having more board members from farther out. John agreed to represent IWC, and indicate that IWC is not interested in being the umbrella for other groups.

**IEC lobby day:** Rick Dietz planning to staff the IWC table.

A tentative legislative agenda was developed (not prioritized):

- \* Water trails statewide plan
- \* Increasing litter fine to \$1,000
- \* Fine owners of vehicles \$1,500 for cars abandoned along rivers if they haven't been reported stolen.
- \* Mandate state warning signage for dam owners.
- \* Increase dam signage/removal/modification to \$400,000.

John suggested banning lead shot for hunters, but this item was not adopted.

Debbie moved the legislative agenda be approved. Lyle seconded. Ayes have it.

**Rivers Revival:** Lyle explained the Iowa Rivers Revival request for \$250. Debbie moved to support IRR at \$250. John seconded. Ayes have it. Lyle also asked Nate to see if Project AWARE would need support again this year, and suggested that if not, that donation could be re-purposed to IRR for advocacy efforts.

**Miscellaneous**

John: Rick Dietz gave matchbox car collection to IWC, and he was interested in John using the eBay giving works program to work with Pat Schlaurbaum of the DNR to sponsor an osprey release. It costs \$520 to sponsor an osprey. At the annual dinner, John would like to talk about this, and encourage others to donate items that might be of value for more generalized fundraising efforts.

There were discussions about how well osprey fit the mission of IWC, but it was agreed that this could be a good demonstration.

Nate moved to have John do a pilot project to sell the matchbox collection to support an osprey release. Debbie seconded. Ayes have it.

There were additional discussions about Pipers upcoming classes and need to better promote them.

The group discussed John's offer to become president, and roles. John and Lyle agreed to think about it and discuss. Nate agreed to ask Scott if he'd be interested in vice president rather than secretary, as Dave Kraemer may be willing to be secretary. Debbie said she is willing to help fundraise, and indicated that Don Propst's Clean Rivers Team may be a good area.

Lyle will set a date for the next meeting.

**Meeting adjourned.**