

Iowa Whitewater Coalition
Board of Directors
4/17/08 Caribou Coffee, Des Moines
Minutes

Members present: Scott Bandstra, Julie Mankel, Lyle Danielson, Ann Cannon, Nate Hooegeveen, Debbie Neustadt, Dave Kraemer

Ann Cannon was welcomed as a new member and has agreed to serve on the board.

Minutes from January meeting discussed. Clarification: IWC vote was to support Iowa Rivers Revival. Discussion regarding diverting Project AWARE support to Iowa Rivers Revival. Lyle moves approval of the minutes, Julie seconds, all approve.

Treasurer's report received. Not as much gained from banquet as hoped. A couple of new memberships have come in. Julie presented the membership list. Lyle, as moderator of the list, will invite new members to Yahoo list. Julie will be added as a moderator so she can invite members, as well.

Lyle offered that income from Piper Wall's paddling classes should find a way to get back into boating. Scott suggested earmarking additional money for classes, ie. Missouri Whitewater training or American Canoe Association instruction. Suggestion also made to contribute to the Iowa State University Canoe and Kayak Club. As ISU facilities are used to generate funds for IWC, consensus was to return some funds to ISU. Renting boats for summer events may be one way to contribute. Dave suggests determining an appropriate amount of reimbursement for ISU instruction and contribute directly to the ISU club. Lyle and Julie will figure up an amount and IWC will plan to rent a couple of boats for Commerce Ledges this summer. Discussion also covered ISU plans to construct a new recreation facility with new pool and Piper's letter advocating a warm-water, standing-depth pool for kayak training and for Swim America.

Lyle reported that since March 1 more than 50 pages have been updated on the Website, including images from Web resources. Content on the main page also has been revised. Cookbook offer has been taken off.

Ann suggests establishing a link to the osprey adoption program. Discussion of how to volunteer. All ospreys are to be watched by volunteers. Information on how to volunteer may be posted to the Web site. Lyle offered that if there is an expectation to volunteer, word must go out.

Lyle reported that four new dam models have been fabricated. Some plumbing is coming for the first one. These four are currently at Regal Plastics. Greg Vitale from the Skunk River Paddlers, Gregg Stark from Cedar Rapids, and Rod Scott have all expressed interest in using a model. Peter Komendowski has suggested contributing the fourth model to the Hartman Reserve in Blackhawk County.

Nate will make laminated information sheets with talking points to include with all dam models. Kit to include dam removal information, Drowning Machine brochures, Website printouts, American Whitewater articles. Board also discussed purchasing duffle bags for each model. IWC will pick up the cost of the duffles.

Lyle noted he is working with Piper Wall on clinics.

Cleanup scheduled for Commerce Ledges was canceled due to cold weather. Lyle did go out and found one volunteer had showed up anyway. Signs to discourage littering would be helpful. Nate says No Dumping signs can be posted, along with Keep Iowa Beautiful No Litter stickers. Julie asked whether Adopt A River signs acknowledging IWC streamkeeper support would be possible. Garbage cans likely cannot be provided because the area is not an official launch site, has no designated parking area, and no resources are available to empty the cans.

Lyle is working to set a budget for the year and complete the annual report. The club should finish off the DNR water trails grant. Nate will help with that.

Nate noted the hundreds of hours of work contributed by John Wenck during the Iowa legislative session, advocating for river and boating issues. John and Robin Fortney will be recognized by Gov. Chet Culver for their work on the River Run Garbage Grab last year.

Dave will meet with Scott and Debbie on May 12 to discuss membership strategies, including promoting the benefits of membership and making membership automatic with banquet attendance.

Julie asked board members to help serve as safety boaters for the Big Creek Triathlon on July 27 and the Copper Creek Triathlon on June 8.

Dave moves, Debbie seconds, all approve supporting Project AWARE at the same level as last year, \$250, and to help serve as safety boaters.

Nate reported that the final legislative budget heading to the governor for signature includes three new major areas of support for rivers and boating.

- \$250,000 for planning for water trails and a dam safety.
- \$1 million additional for low head dam safety and water trails construction.
- \$2 million to the Department of Economic Development for the River

Enhancement Community Attractions and Tourism program funding trails and whitewater projects.

Interest in dam removal, several projects around the state, discussed. Role for IWC is in facilitating projects, seeking partnerships with local groups. Also to remind the city of Des Moines to keep the Des Moines River water park moving forward.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Kraemer