

Iowa Whitewater Coalition Board Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2010, convened at 5:40 pm
NAI Ruhl & Ruhl, West Des Moines

Members present: Lyle Danielson, Peter Komendowski, Julie Mankel, Ann Cannon and Piper Wall via teleconference.

Previous meeting's minutes: Approved minutes of meeting on November 17, 2009.

Treasurer's Report: Revenue was received in December and January for 2010 dues and paddling instruction. The R2G2 2009 final report for the DNR CLEAR grant was finally submitted. Julie announced another significant contribution from IWC lifetime member David Hillman.

Be Dam Safe (BDS) Campaign: New efforts to improve dam safety in Des Moines were initiated following a boat accident, drowning and dramatic rescue at the Center Street dam in late June, 2009. In December, 2009, IWC was invited to become a partner in a marketing campaign focused on low head dam (LHD) safety in a nine county area surrounding Des Moines. Lyle and Julie have attended several meetings with representatives from the City of Des Moines (Parks/Rec & Fire/Rescue), Polk County and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. A stylized low head dam logo was developed that includes a reference to dam safety information that is available on IWC's website. The logo was printed on boat registration renewal cards that are being mailed out by the area's county recorders. Lyle added the logo to the IWC website homepage to direct visitors to the low head dam reference web pages. Following an exhaustive search of an online newspaper archive, Lyle also updated the IWC LHD website with information on the more than 150 dam-related fatalities in Iowa since 1900. Lyle and Julie have also contributed to a narrow-format insert that hopefully will be sent out with renewed registration stickers. The insert includes the campaign logo, several bullets regarding dam safety, a map and listing of dangerous dams in the area and a "Wear It" (personal flotation device) logo. Corporate sponsorship is being solicited to cover printing costs.

Peter asked if other counties, such as Black Hawk, could be included in the campaign. The timing for coordinating county level efforts and printing registration renewal cards limited the scope from going statewide in 2010. Unfortunately it will be another three years before the next statewide registration cycle in 2013, but it is something to work towards.

2010 Annual Meeting: Piper worked with Jeff Holmes to arrange for the IWC annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the CanoeSport Expo, on February 13th, 5pm at the VFW Hall in Indianola. Piper will give a presentation about IWC activities/benefits past and present (grants, trails, local projects, dam conversions, portage trails, clean ups, river congress, DNR, dam model, safety boating, etc.) IWC members from the Omaha were planning to attend the expo and are delighted to hear about the joint events. Light

refreshments will be provided. Piper is also hoping to complete production of her dry rolling DVD and have it available for purchase at the expo.

2009 Annual Report: Board members discussed the value of producing an annual report for 2009. The group agreed that such a document is important for a variety of reasons and to work on a list of topics to be included and converted to story form. Peter will help with the final versions.

Clean Rivers Team: Some discussion about the conversion of this stewardship effort to a grant based program. IWC wants to make sure groups across the state are aware of this resource. R2G2 2010 will be reminded of the new funding procedure. Need to recheck fund balance before promoting it too heavily.

Other Business:

- IWC received notice from GoDaddy.com to renew internet domain registration for WWW.IOWAWHITEWATER.ORG. The cost for dot ORG registration is about \$15.00 per year. There are additional fees for ICANN and anti-spamming privacy registration. The board discussed the merits of registering the IOWAWHITEWATER.COM name. It was agreed to handle the matter as an administration issue. Lyle will renew the dot ORG registration and claim the dot COM domain name.
- Piper asked about getting the joint ISUKC/IWC trip to Jim Falls, Wisconsin on the IWC events calendar. Lyle has been busy with website updates related to paddling instruction and the Be Dam Safe campaign and hopes to update the calendar page eventually.

Next meeting: Not yet scheduled. Iowa higher education spring break March 15-19.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Danielson.