



BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
June 2, 2021  
via ZOOM

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:09 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Kenny Price, Kurt LaFrance, Jack Ripstra, Kay Brown, Cathy Jehnzen, Dan Kaser, John Minar, Kurt Rudolph, and Benji Ward

**Absent:** Deb Snell, Jeff Lokus

**Guests:** Special thanks to Blackman Township for the use of their Zoom account.

**AGENDA REVIEW:**

There was a motion to accept the amended emailed agenda by Kurt Rudolph, seconded by Jack Ripstra, and approved by all

**MINUTES:**

There was a motion to accept Kurt LaFrance's recently emailed May minutes by Jack Ripstra seconded by Cathy Jehnzen, and approved by all.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

There was no report, but Jack noted that GREAT gained a little this month with membership and referred to his email transmitting the Treasurer's information. GREAT is down one Family, 14 Individual and 1 Sponsor memberships compared to this time last year.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer's Balance Sheet, Budget Comparison and Profit & Loss reports were emailed out. Jack reported assets of \$15,996.22 at the end of May. There was discussion that Smile Amazon can provide some additional revenue for non-profits.

**RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:**

Jack reported that Kenny, Cathy & Jack paddled the Mystery Trip on the prior Sunday and found that the water level was too low to get to the Heron roost. Therefore, it was cancelled. The next paddle on the Kalamazoo will start at Rieger Park in Albion. Board members can meet there at 10AM or at Jack's at 9:30 AM. It was noted that there are 4 or 5 apps that show river levels. John Minar reported that Park Dr to Sharp Lake has been cleared.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Kenny noted that for the Popcorn Friday at the Michigan Theater he would like to know what the limits are for the Theater sign. Kurt will ask Steve Tucker about this and get back to Kenny. There was some discussion of proposed changes by the City to Brown Street in Cascades Park due to the wooden pedestrian bridge being in poor condition. Kenny noted that June 12 & 13 are free fishing days.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **June Paddle on the Kalamazoo** – The board discussed the assignments for the paddle. The Event Roster was filled out.
- **End of ZOOM Era** – The July meeting will be held at Blackman Township Hall and on Zoom. The August meeting will be held at Summit Township.
- **Paddle on the Grand River** – The Michigan Center to Lions Park paddle on July 10 was discussed.

Due to low water level, it is likely that the Alternate Paddle will occur at Little Wolf Lake. The limit for the paddle will be the connection to Olcott Lake.

- **New Board Member** – Brandon Goyings is likely a good future board member. We will need his contact information from the September Clean-up.

### **Standing Committees:**

**Communication/Newsletter:** The next Newsletter was discussed as it still needs to go out and not all of the articles are in.

**Finances:** No report.

**Activities & Calendar:** see above.

**Education & Advocacy:** No report.

**Annual Cleanup:** No report.

**Nominations:** No report.

**GREAT Equipment:** The bench is on order.

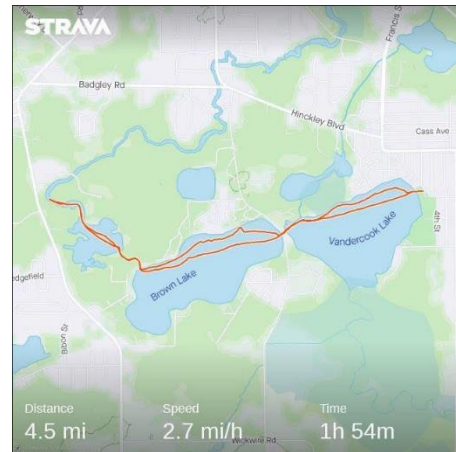
**River Debris Removal:** No report.

**GREAT land and building:** No report.

### **AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Grand River Trail Map and Booklet:** Kurt is planning to map the trails using Strava (example to right).

**Water Trail:** At the last meeting there was a need to place 25 signs on bridges. MDOT declined to place signs, JCDoT likes the idea, and the City has not commented.



### **RELATED GROUPS:**

**Watershed Council:** No report.

**Earth Day:** No report.

**JCCD:.** No report.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 as moved by Kurt Rudolph, seconded by Kurt LaFrance and approved by all.

A vote was taken to have the next monthly meeting will be in July 7, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom and approved.

Kurt Rudolph, Recorder of Minutes

*The mission of GREAT is to promote the protection and preservation of the Grand River Watershed through activities and educational programs.*