



Protect-Preserve-Enjoy **Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council**

Minutes of the trustee's meeting held September 2, 2017 @ The Indian Cub, Irons, Michigan

EXECUTIVE ACTIONS:

President Tim Phillips called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

Attendance: Tim Phillips, Joyce Durdel, David Spruance, Greg Block, Steve Bishop, Gordon Lewis (emeritus)

Absent: Joe Rogers, Dale Downes, Evelyn Furman, Dan Sernick, Jim Squier, Armas Soorus

There were no minutes available from the August 5 meeting.

Membership lists will be up-dated twice yearly: after the December renewal period, and after the annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report: There was no Treasurer's report.

PROJECT STATUS:

1. NFS erosion sites — Nothing to report.
2. Syers Dam — Nate Winkler of CRA reports securing a grant from NFWS totaling \$40,000. LMWCC has pledged a maximum of \$10,000, and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has pledged to support the proposed removal of the dam. CRA will undertake the permitting process, and work is expected to begin in the spring of 2018.
3. Volunteer projects — the bug survey has been completed, and the H₂O Water Quality study will be conducted on July 10th. Results of the surveys will be available in the Fall/winter newsletter in December. Contact trustee Joyce Durdel to participate in either of these activities.

It was proposed that earlier completed projects be inspected to determine those in need of refurbishing as possible projects for 2018.

4. Fish habitat project in Section III of the Trout Unlimited “Habitat Assessment” of 2015 permit expected in early September with completion expected in late September or early October. Monies from the 2016 Jorgensen donation will be used in completing the project (The Jorgensen Project).
5. A site for a channelization project has been selected. Nate Winkler will evaluate the site and begin permitting process for a possible 2018 project.
6. Erosion sites: Tim Phillips has identified all moderate sites, 5 on state land (2,3,12,14,15,18), CRA is doing permitting process targeting a completion in 2017 — and 7 on private land (19, 31, 32, 35, 39, 48, 51) as potential sites for projects in 2018.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Networks Northwest has begun the process of collecting data for the WMP. There is still some uncertainty about AES’s demand to have the full \$40,000 deposited into a transfer account, and no further action was taken in light of the decision at the July 7th meeting to hold as many funds in MCCF accounts as possible.

GRANTS:

CRA has secured a \$40,000 grant from NFWS for the Syers Dam removal project. See #2 under “Project Status.”

LMWCC has submitted a “Pre-proposal” for \$40,000 to the DNR’s Aquatic Habitat Grant Program for removal and use of dead and dying ash trees along the river corridor. Notification of acceptance is September 28, and a full grant request will be due in November.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of annual meeting — There was a discussion of apparel and other items to be sold at the annual meeting. To eliminate last minute confusion, items brought to the meeting on Saturday morning may be stored for use the following year.
2. Membership — Trustee Dale Downes will compile a **Master List of Members** to be updated biannually which will include corporate members and sponsors defined as any group or entity that has donated \$100 or more. There was a discussion of the purpose and effectiveness of mailings in promoting the LMWCC. It is important for the newsletter to reflect the

purposes and process of the Watershed Management Plan, and it was decided that river front property owners should be added to membership to generate a **Master Mailing List**. This would also include all partners of the Watershed Management Plan and local township representatives. Gordon Lewis will forward to Dale the property owners list. Joyce Durdel will provide the partners and township contacts.

The Fall/Winter newsletter will feature an article on riparian property owner stewardship and the Watershed Management Plan.

Many thanks to the Indian Club members and staff for the gracious hospitality.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Next meeting: October 7, 2017 10 AM @ Elk Township Hall

Respectfully submitted by David L. Spruance September 7, 2017