



Nippersink Watershed Association

MINUTES

Meeting of the Directors of the Nippersink Watershed Association, Inc., Thursday, August 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at 7602 Hancock Drive, Wonder Lake, IL

Call to Order: President Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

Roll Call - Establish Quorum: Dennis Palys, Orrin Bangert, Tom Cooper, Cindy Skrukrud, Mark Nichols, Dick Hilton. **Also Present:** Randy Stowe, Watershed Manager.

Approval of Minutes of July 7, 2016: Minutes approved on a Motion by Dennis Palys, second by Orrin Bangert.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Bangert reported a balance in the checking account of \$1,414.49.

Communications

Correspondence: Draft Contract for 2016 received from IEPA. New format was noted.

Public Comments: None

Officers' Report: A Motion by Dennis Palys to appoint Cindy Skrukrud as Vice President of the NWA was seconded by Orrin Bangert. Following discussion the Motion passed with a unanimous vote of all present. The appointment is to take effect immediately and Secretary Hilton will notify the IL Secretary of State.

Watershed Manager's Report: Mr. Stowe reported that permit from the County has been received and that work on the Shaw property project (**2015 Section 319, Clean Water Act Grant**) should begin this during the fall season.

2016 EPA 319 Section Grants: Mr. Stowe reported that he is working to finalize commitments from property owners for projects accepted for funding under the 2016 Grant cycle.

2017 EPA 319 Section Grants: Mr. Stowe reported that owners of property eligible for potential grants were unable to fully commit in time to meet the Aug. 1, 2016 deadline.

The Healthy Watersheds Consortium (HWC) grant application, submitted in partnership with Friends of Hackmatack and Openlands, was not approved. However, a new National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant was submitted, featuring the same goals and partners as the HWC grant.

There was discussion concerning other potential grant programs but nothing was finalized.

Committee Reports

Fund Raising / Donations / Membership Structure: Mr. Hilton is working on the structure of the membership and identifying large landowners and organizations that may be interested in supporting the Association's mission.

Membership Brochure: Ms. Skrukrud and Mr. Stowe are working on a draft copy.

Nippersink Marketing Opportunities: Mr. Palys reported that he has sign making equipment and aluminum blanks to make signs identifying properties owned by the Association and will begin production in the near future.

Adopt-A-Road Program: Ms. Skrukrud is working to identify a well traveled road that will enable the Association to take charge of policing for trash as part of the Richmond Township Adopt-A-Road program.

Hackmatack Conservation Priorities Plan: A conference call was held during which it was determined that an effort is underway to secure a 200+ acre parcel in the upper Nippersink.

Unfinished Business

NWA Land Holdings – Conservation Easements: Mr. Hilton and Mr. Cooper identified properties in the Merchant Creek subwatershed to Wonder Lake that are in the McHenry County Treasurer's Sealed Bid program. Bids are due no later than Aug. 5, 2016 and a party is

interested in bidding on them on behalf of the NWA. If successful in the bidding process, the person will donate them to the NWA.

Wonderview Wetland Project: Mr. Palys reported that the recent planting of native species in this wetland appear to be doing well and we should consider the effort a success.

NWA Facebook Page: Mrs. Skrukruud announced that she is looking for appropriate items to post on the site. Mr. Palys indicated that he had a video of wetland planting activities that he would try to make available.

New Business

McHenry County Water Resource Position, P & D Dept: The County Planning & Zoning Committee and Human Resources Committee both approved the establishment of the position. The Finance Committee will take up the matter during their September 8, 2016 meeting.

Next Meeting: The Board agreed to meet on October 6, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the MPOA Meeting room.

Adjournment: On a Motion by Mr. Nichols and second by Mr. Palys, the meeting adjourned at 8:30PM