

Minutes of WGWA Board Meeting held August 7, 2008

Start time: Noon

Attendees: Lee Trotta, Joan Viney, Katherine Grote, Corey Pagels, Paula Richardson, Troy Thompson, and Jim Drought

Minutes from the July 3 meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's report via Paula stated that we have \$7270.55 in our checking account.

The Membership report via Paula stated that we have 143 paid members which includes 23 new members to the organization in 2008. There are 72 members from last year who have not yet renewed. We discussed having Joan send those late renewing members a member sign up sheet along with a Field Trip registration sheet.

The Newsletter report given by Troy indicated he has had a little trouble getting enough material together for the newsletter. In order to help, the Communications Task Force was going to go over the membership survey results and prepare something for the newsletter. Paula said she would ask Sandra McLellan of the Water Institute if we can include her paper with perhaps a brief summary by her.

Paula summarized the planning efforts for the **Field Trip** and said that everything is on schedule. She asked if it would be okay to extend free registrations to the students that had been helping her and we agreed on that as well as 3 additional students. Paula will get Lee and Mike some verbage as to how we would send that out in a note. We discussed and agreed that it would be best to offer a total number of registrations, rather than a number for each school. We discussed the PEC proposal and decided to go ahead with the online registration and sponsorship procurement at the 20% level for both the Field Trip and Conference. At least for the Field Trip, we will make clear that the \$7 registration fee goes to an outside company.

Conference planning is also proceeding on schedule and Paula noted that her efforts to contact Congressman James Oberstar had been a little unproductive so far and Lee offered to call him.

Great Lakes Task Force will be holding their press conference with the Mayor at 9am on August 14th. Invitations can be found on our website. The Earth Voyager will be docked at Pier Wisconsin from the afternoon of August 14th through the 16th.

Communications Task Force completed several projects including a group membership form with distribution, a GIS links page on our website, and a membership survey. The only pending projects are new webinars and a website branding presentation done with Flash software (proposed costs will be brought to the Board when quotes are available).

Other ideas included a suggestion from Jim Drought that we use Microsoft Outlook to announce future Board meetings. Paula will facilitate this when she gets the next preliminary Board meeting announcement from Lee. The date is TBD, but probably in October.

Adjourned about 12:45pm.