

Communication, Education, and Youth Committee Minutes 5/13/2006

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am in the Twin Lakes Village Hall. All members were present; Corinne Krebs, Lynne Hellman, Vicki Skinner, and two new volunteers; Mary Wolaver and John Wolaver. Trustee Sharon Bower also joined the committee for this meeting.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

“A river is the report card for its watershed.”

Alan Levere, Department of Environmental Protection, 2000.

As discussion about this statement and how it relates to the Lake District progressed, one thing became very clear...water protection and conservation goes beyond the boundaries of individual water bodies and it goes beyond the political boundaries we impose on the land. Good water stewardship starts with each person deciding to do something and we as a District need to reach out to those people, because what one person up stream does becomes clearly reflected to those down stream!

After this brief contemplation of why we get involved in such organizations, the committee members read over minutes from last September and October. Vicki Skinner moved to approve the September meeting minutes, Lynne Hellman seconded the motion, and the committee unanimously approved the minutes for September. Vicki then moved to approve October's meeting minutes, Mary Wolaver seconded the motion, and the committee unanimously approved the October meeting minutes.

Old Business:

The first item discussed under old business was educational articles. Since there were two new members present, the list of potential topics was presented. Out of the discussion about topics the Committee decided that an article pertaining to Staff Gauges would be most appropriate, since the Boat Safety and User Conflict Committee would be having them installed this June at the same time as the buoys. Lynne volunteered to start the educational article series up again by covering this topic. Then the committee chose to cover the new Shoreline Ordinances passed over a year ago. This series of articles is intended to assist everyone in understanding the Village Ordinance on Shorelines. Mary volunteered to tackle the series with the first article being submitted in July. John Wolaver interjected an idea corresponding to the shoreline topic. He suggested that all shorelines in compliance with the ordinance get some type of marker, easily recognized, to help “show off” shorelines exhibiting acceptable shoreline activities and possibilities for improvement.

Next Vicki presented the volunteer monitoring data sheets. After some brief discussion, she decided to revamp the sheets and report back at the next meeting.

New Business:

First, we wanted to bring our newest members up-to-date with the committee. They had received some information from the minutes and old business, but they needed some background on new things the committee would like to pursue; such as an Educational Program. In the past, the Communication Committee tried to entice members of the Lakewood Educational team to incorporate some type of environmental lake study into their curriculum. After 4-5 attempts and no response, the committee determined that we would have to create our own program. Members suggested that we get in touch with local youth groups such as the Girl and Boy Scouts. The communication committee would support a badge award for kids completing the course in water stewardship. The discussion went into some adult education and updates on educational events. Vicki volunteered to check for new educational events and send them to Stephanie Darling of Darling Software to be posted on the District Website.

From there the meeting direction quickly turned to the next topic; the Annual Lake District Meeting. This is the primary Lake District event and each year a presentation is put together by the Communication Committee. Corinne Krebs stated that the next meeting would involve preparation for this event. Each committee member was assigned to a District subcommittee and asked to contact the chairperson for a synopsis of the subcommittee's activities and future ambitions. The assignments are as follows:

Vicki Skinner = Stormwater
Mary Wolaver = Aquatic Plants and Boat Safety
John Wolaver = Shoreline Protection
Corinne Krebs = Communication Committee
 = Steering Council
 = Water Quality

The committee's next meeting date will be June 17th, due to some scheduling conflicts, at 9:00am in the Village Hall. The committee agreed that meetings will be regularly scheduled for the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00am.

Meeting Adjourned