

Grand River Expedition 2010
Steering Committee Notes-Monday, March 15, 2010

Attendees: Gloria Miller, Chuck Amboy, Flipper Harrington, Rita Jack, Charlie Parmelee, Doug Carter, Pat Conley, Dave Ringlein, Dann Todd, Jay Ziel, Mary Ziel, John Riley, Steve Church, Catherine Church, Timothy Bay, Mark Salisbury, Deb Salisbury, Jacob Salisbury, Gary Haynes, Jeanne Bewersdorff, Andy Bowman

Welcome, Introductions, Overview of the Expedition for Newcomers

Regional Reports

Upper Grand – The upper Grand has received two donations - \$1,000 and \$5,000. Leoni Township has officially approved the request to camp and launch from Michigan Center. They are organizing a river-themed art contest for display in Jackson prior to the expedition and are planning a stand-alone mural that would travel down the river with the expedition (with kids painting panels as we go along) The next meeting is 6:30, March 17th at the Blackman Charter Township Hall, 1990 W. Parnall, Jackson

- Middle Grand – Plans for the middle Grand are proceeding on schedule. There is a meeting in Delta Township March 17th to iron out the details for that section. The next meeting will be held at Delta Township District Library on April 12th. Charlie Parmelee, Rita Jack, and Doug Carter will work on a GRE booth for Adopt-a-River on April 18th. Charlie would like to head up a Middle Grand coalition (similar to the Upper Grand and Lower Grand coalitions) which we hope will be one of the outcomes of GRE 2010.
- Lower Grand – Andy Bowman's updated the steering committee on this section. Gary DeKock will be the finance committee representative from the lower Grand. The next meeting will be held at 2:00 PM on March 21st at the Grand Valley Metro Council.

Insurance - will be provided through a national canoe association for about \$15/person and will be included in the registration fee.

Budget, Fundraising and Financial Procedures - Doug Carter reviewed the financial procedures which are on the website and emphasized that approval is needed from the finance committee before an expenditure is made. Chuck Amboy stated that he would accept the position of Treasurer.

Database and Survey - Rita Jack reported that emails have been sent to 123 people who had answered the survey encouraging them to contact the regional coalitions.

Key Dates

- April 1st – The expenses should be identified for each trip segment, including transportation costs and meals that are not being provided locally.
- April 10th – The registration brochure should be ready. It should show each segment of the trip, the cost and registration procedures. The brochure will be on the website and available to the regional coordinators in PDF form to print out as needed. There will be a space on the brochure for printing sponsors.

- April 15th – Online Registrations will begin.
- June 15 – Cutoff date for multi-day registration.
- July 1st – Cutoff date for single day trip registration.

Daily River Maps – Each region will prepare daily river orientation maps. However, we will need to decide on the same format.

Proposals to Haul Camping Gear and Display - Michigan Trailspotters a number of different options and their costs. GRE will accept proposal #4. Gear and displays would be transported from campsite to campsite. They will also provide shuttle service for individuals who make their own arrangements and payment. Gear and display transport for the total trip would be \$2,200.

The Lansing Ice & Fuel Company has offered use of a large covered trailer and truck, as well as procured a 250 gallon water tank through their resources.

The Expedition decided to accept these offers and communicate to both of these partners, the appreciation of the offers and intent to finalize the agreements.

Registration Procedures – Michigan Trailspotters will also handle online and paper registration for \$5/reservation. Doug and Rita Jack will develop the brochure and posters.

Water and Water Bottles - Three good quotes were obtained for aluminum water bottles- all between \$5-\$6. A decision was made to go with an Eaton Rapids supplier at \$5.05 a bottle and to put logo on the bottle with possible sponsorship information. Jeanne Bewersdorff will look into different tops for the bottles and handle the order which needs to be placed by May 1st. Since this amount exceeds that budgeted for water bottles the Finance Committee will decide how many to order.

Pass the Paddle – Charlie Parmelee and Doug Carter will plan and conduct the passing of the paddle during the GRE.

Resolutions and Proclamations – Doug and Richard Barclay have been working with the governor's office, who has requested wording for a resolution. Templates for local resolutions are on the website, and all are encouraged to present them to their local communities and other groups.

Library contacts – Doug believes we may be able to obtain 60 copies of the large-format watershed map for distribution to libraries.

Other - Suggested donations for shirts and book will remain at the Quiet Water Symposium level, until registration closes for paddlers seeking support services, (one month prior to departure). Jim Woodruff donated \$400 worth of Kit Lane's books in memory of his wife Elaine. Five dozen shirts were distributed at QWS with two dozen left and several orders for different sizes. Pat Harrington will order more in other sizes, with prior approval of Finance Committee. We may have the shirts and books available at Adopt-a-River and Hugh Heward challenge.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held at 6:30 PM, Monday, April 19, 2010 at Impression Five Museum, Lansing, Michigan.