

Monday, September 21, 2009 - 6:30 pm
Grand River Expedition 2010
STEERING COMMITTEE NOTES - DRAFT

Welcome, introductions and approval of agenda – (attendance record to follow)

Notes from August 17, 2009 meeting approved as presented.

Announcements - Ada is having a Riverfest on September 3. There are river clean-ups in DeWitt on September 10 and Lansing on September 11. Grand River Expedition is attending Michigan Audubon's Crane Fest near Battle Creek on the 10 and 11th to promote our event.

Upper Grand River – First day's camping, meals and porta-potties are provided. A local band will play for free on the first night. A bus tour of the headwaters is tentatively planned. And other days are coming along as well.

Middle Grand River – There are local hosts for half of the segments. There is discussion about having the Lansing lunch stop and program near Old Town. Dimondale would like to host us for lunch, and Grand Ledge will provide camping and work with us for meals.

Lower Grand River – The first meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday afternoon.

Rivermaster Committee – Charlie Parmelee

- Proposal from Grand River Otter trail spotters to provide transportation, where we are unable to recruit volunteers, of camping equipment and displays, and shuttling of daytrippers “at cost”
- GREAT is committed to clearing the river this fall from Jackson to I-127 +++
- **NEED** to develop safety plan – John McPhail will lead

Budget & Finance – Doug Carter

- Timberland Resource, Conservation and Development District (RC&D) has agreed to serve as our Expedition fiduciary agent
- Doug has prepared a list of Budget Priorities, but there is a **NEED** to develop a detailed budget, a fundraising plan and specific funding proposals

History and Education – Jim Woodruff

- Jim mentioned that he **NEEDS HELP** with this Committee – he will direct sales of Kit Lane's book on the Grand River as a fundraiser, identify existing historical data, prepare daily historical maps and summaries and help with opening and closing ceremonies
- **NEED** to help Jim recruit local historians and historical re-enactors – it was mentioned that there is a publication entitled “Smoke and Fire News” that is geared to re-enactors. We will contact them.
- Doug reported that he has been in contact with the Director of Project Lakewell, and that they are interested

Environment and Natural Resources – **NEED FOR MEMBERS/CHAIR** – Doug reporting

- We're having difficulty finding data from 1990 and 2000
- We've been in contact with DNR, DEQ and MSU
- **NEED HELP** to contact numerous youth and educational groups, schools. etc.
- **NEED** to identify current needs, and develop environmental sampling assessment plan
- **NEED** to recruit resource specialists to participate in education and demonstrations
- **NEED** to brainstorm on how to involve the agricultural community

Data Management – Rita Jack

- A detailed data base of organizations, communities, businesses and individuals has been developed – **PLEASE HELP** by sending info to Rita – Rich Bailey offered to help
- A “quick and dirty” survey of interested persons will be sent out soon – this should help us to get people better involved within their communities and in their particular areas of interest and expertise
- Grand River Otter trail spotters has offered to do our on-line registration at no charge

Communications – ***NEED FOR MEMBERS/CHAIR***

- We're getting numerous requests to attend and present at river-related events – Pat Harrington offered a flyer that he and Robin Barfoot prepared – he also indicated he could print a limited supply
- ***NEED*** for poster
- ***NEED*** for PowerPoint presentation

Liability insurance –

- Rich Bailey checked with the American Canoe Association rates, and they look promising
- Jin Sietz of GREAT provided the name and number of their insurance provider
- Rich Bailey and Pat Harrington will investigate and offer a recommendation at our October meeting

T-shirts – David Ringlein and Doug Carter will work with graphics artist Curtis Remington on the design and marketing - others are welcome

The group agreed that we should seek special Grand River Expedition editions of beers and wines through local breweries and wineries – David Ringlein will investigate.

Next meeting date, time and location: October 19, 2009, 6:30pm, at Impression 5 Science Museum, located at 200 Museum Drive, Lansing, MI (see website for map of location, <http://tiny.cc/grandriverexpedition2010>)