

Central Iowa Paddlers
Board Meeting
6 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, 2007
Ankeny

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 9, 2007

In attendance: Lynn Aldridge, Rick Dietz, Robin Fortney, Bill Graham, John Holzmueller, Dick Howard, Bob Johansen, Ray Knight and John Wenck

We missed Don Probst.

Welcome to Ray Knight, new board president!

REPORTS:

1. Robin will provide minutes from 2/20/07, meeting at a later date.
2. Bob reported \$1,949.38 in the checking account. Recent expenditures included \$250 to Project AWARE, \$250 for Iowa Rivers Revival conference and \$89 for new CIP banner. All agreed new banner is beautiful. Robin requested that check for \$100 be available on 4/15/07 for Watersheds United at Armchair Paddlers Series event.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Armchair Paddlers Series: Robin reported that the 4/15/07 event will be held at the Polk County Community Center on Franklin Avenue in Des Moines. Steve Parrish will provide a projector and Bill will bring a backup laptop and projector. James Martin and Brian Emerson will present a program on their Cedar River explorations.
2. Iowa Rivers Revival: Robin reported that the IRR held its second annual conference on 3/3-3/07 at the 4-H Camp near Luther; 35 people attended in spite of the blizzard. The 3/1/07 session for communities and economic development professionals was postponed to 3/29/07, but will still be held at the Lake Panorama conference center.
3. Anniversary Celebration: Robin and John W reported on the 6/2/07 boat float for paddlers, rowers and power boaters. Boat decorations are encouraged. Gerry Rowland has agreed to be parade marshal. Picnic and music are planned. Robin reported on the 8/18/07 Des Moines River water trail cleanup event. Planning support have been offered by the Army Corps, county, city, Izaak Walton League, and Des Moines Rowing Club. Robin reported on the planned photo essay exhibit; she will request photographs and stories from the paddling community.
4. Paddling Iowa Class: John W reported that the class about paddling in Iowa will be offered on May 1, 8 and 15 at Hoover High School through the Des Moines Public Schools adult education program. Nate Hoogeveen, Scott Evans, Dave Kraemer, Robin and others have offered to plan and present the classes.

5. Rick agreed to write a short article about telephone numbers that club members may want to keep handy when on the river. Examples are numbers for illegal dumping, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Rick reported that a Story County water rescue team is looking for assistance from paddlers to serve on the team. Training would be provided. He will investigate further and report back to the board.

BOARD REPORTS:

1. Membership: Lynn reported 109 paid members to date for the 2007 season.
2. Newsletter: Steve Parrish requested information for the March newsletter. This newsletter mailing will include a member list and a paper copy will go to all members.
3. Advocacy: Bill reported on the proposed ML King Avenue extension. He has met with Ryan Hauser of the Central Iowa Trails Association and with the Des Moines/Polk County Trails and Greenbelt Advisory Committee to voice opposition to the extension. Bill will draft a letter to the federal highway administration and others for board approval. Rick reported that Ginger Soeberg of the Sierra Club has asked for support on Iowa DNR's use attainability analysis for stream designations. The results of the analysis will impact requirements for sewage treatment facilities. The board decided to send a survey to CIP members to request input on streams that are important to them. Robin agreed to type up a CIP survey form and will send a copy to Steve Parrish for the newsletter and Rick will write a background piece to accompany the survey form. The board will send the forms directly to the DNR.
4. Iowa Whitewater Coalition: John W reported that House File 612 on dam safety is alive and in the house appropriations committee. \$300,000 has been requested for matching grants to fund dam removal, signage, etc. Discussion ensued concerning the Iowa Environmental Council's addition of a rider regarding megatrash. John also reported that the IWC hosted a successful public meeting recently on dam safety and liability issues for dam owners and river resource managers. A public meeting was held the same weekend to address similar issues for the general public. Luther Aadland of the Minnesota DNR presented an excellent program at both events on dam removal projects and affects on fisheries.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Fortney