

**Friends of the Refuge Headwaters
Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2009 7:10 PM**

In attendance: Bev Spande, Steve Nagel, Eric Nelson (representing FWS) Todd Paddock, John Carrier (recording); Mary Stefanski (arrived late)

The meeting was started at 7:10 PM at the Winona District office.

The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$1397.50, no outstanding bills. Approved.

The Board of Directors met on June 12. They agreed to move forward with the development of letterhead, calling cards and t-shirts featuring the Friends logo. Todd had delivered the t-shirts to the refuge office last week. It was decided to offer the shirts for sale for \$10.00 (printing cost had been \$7). The shirts will be kept at the refuge office.

Mary Stefanski requested reimbursement for the food and refreshments that were provided at the last meeting held aboard the pontoon. She presented receipts for \$102. John Carrier also requested reimbursement for the boat gas. Receipt and amount will be provided at a later date.

There was discussion regarding the time period that new members would have to join the group and have charter statuses. It was agreed that Charter status would end on 12/31/2009.

A press release and photo are needed to announce the winner of the logo contest. Cortney White (FWS) will write press release and submit to papers with pictures (provided by John Carrier). The release will include: contest, logo, purpose, website address. All the contest entries will be displayed at the refuge office through July. Todd Paddock will send Michelle Dunkin a check for \$100 for winning the contest.

The pool 6 cleanup was discussed. Eric Nelson will contact Richie Swanson with Mississippi River Revival to see if they would like to join forces on a pool 6 or 5A cleanup later this summer. Todd mentioned that FUMMR would like to organize a Refuge-wide clean up May 1st next year. All in attendance felt this would be a good event to participate in.

Discussion was held about the Friends sponsoring a pilot fishing line recycling program. It was agreed that the pilot would include 5 recycling containers located at river boat landings and other locations that are heavily fished. John Carrier will purchase supplies and build the containers. The group approved an expenditure of up to \$300 for the project.

Website Report by Steve Nagel: Plans include means of making a contribution on line. Need more pictures. Steve will add other features including: Web site counter button,

domain name license, E-mail button and FUMAR link.

Todd brought up concerns over CAPX power line. Our preferences are to have the line cross the river in the lowest impact zone possible, and that it then leave the river corridor. Best preference is to cross underground. We will write a position statement. Todd and Steve will write for our approval via email.

The refuge is looking for help locating land to acquire for a visitor center and shop complex. Preferably 20 acres or more; between Winona and Wabasha, on the Minnesota side. If anyone has leads, call Mary at the refuge 507-494-6229.

Everyone was surprised that the float didn't receive any awards from the Steamboat Days parade.

Meeting adjourned 8:19 PM

Next meeting August 12, 7:00 p.m.