

## **Raccoon Creek Water Trail Association**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday August 10, 2006

Lake Hope Boat House

Attendance:

Wendy Shields, Chris Chmiel, Sarah Watling, Gary Kellough, Thomas Johnson, Bob Bethel, Pat Speck, Gordon Pettey, Ben McCament, Brett Laverty, Glenn Stout, Howard Fisher, Suzanne Fisher.

1. **Group Structure.** The group decided that for the time being, in place of our group seeking non-profit status, we would work as a sub-committee of the Raccoon Creek Watershed Project, which is currently in the process of becoming a 501 c 3 organization. The water trail group will have autonomy from the watershed organization, and will have control of any money that is raised by the group for the water trail association. In addition, for the time being, we will elect a chair, vice chair, and treasurer to oversee any financial transactions until the watershed organization is up and running.
2. As some folks were unable to attend this meeting, we decided to have members send email nominations (and self nominations) for positions of chair, vice chair, and treasurer. Please have these to me by Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. We will have an official vote at our next meeting.
3. **Paw Paw Festival.** Chris Chmiel came to talk to us about picking paw paws for our first annual Paw Paw Pick N Paddle. We didn't discuss one of the more important issues regarding this paddle... when do we want to do it??? Here are options I'm thinking of: 1. have a real pick party on Friday September 15<sup>th</sup> (this could be in the evening). This one could be for trying to pick for the purpose of \$\$\$\$. We could then have a media advertised pick N paddle on Sunday, the 17<sup>th</sup>. This would give us a chance to recruit folks from the paw paw festival- and get the word out about our group. 2. We could have our paddle for a few hours on either afternoon of the event. 3. Other options? What do you all think? [and remember, there is prize money for the best paw paw!]
4. **Display:** Brett volunteered to make a display for local festivals... that will be ready before the paw paw festival in September.
5. Wendy will contact the organizer of the festival to reserve a table for our display.
6. **Timber and Great Outdoor Show:** Ohio Outback will be organizing a tent for displays- we will have our new display there. Gary is organizing a short canoe float for interested participants. We will also help with that.
7. We scheduled our next meeting for just before the Paw Paw Festival so we can get organized and make sure last minute details are taken care of. This meeting will be Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, in Albany at the Wells Public Library.