



Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

Pres. - John Gettinger

V. Pres. – Dave Hacker

Treasurer – Robert Shepherd

Secretary – Dale Brier

September 10, 2014 1 p.m.

Wabash County Historical Museum

36 E. Market Street

Wabash, IN 46992

Attendance

Voting Members Present:

Allen County – Ron Zartman
Fountain County - Bob Shepherd
Gibson County - Bill Knowles
Huntington County - Dave Hacker
Miami County - Kenneth Einselen
Parke County – Penny Cox
Posey County - Ralph Weinzapfel
Sullivan County - John Gettinger
Tippecanoe County – Jim Andrew
Vermillion County – Larry Southard
Vigo County – Kara Kish
Wabash County - Mike Beauchamp
Warren County - Steve Eberly
DNR – Dale Brier (alternate)

Non-Voting Members Present:

None

Guests:

Penny Barton – Vermillion County (alternate)
Dick Beamer - Wabash County (alternate)
Mercedes Brugh
Phil Cox – Parke County (alternate)
Brandon Juergens
Steve Johnson
Amy Marisavljevic – DNR
Don Mathis – Huntington County (alternate)
Keith Poole – Wabash County (alternate)
Jen Rankin – Wabash County SWD

Voting Members Absent:

Adams County - Ryan Noblitt
Carroll County - George Mears
Cass County- Arin Shaver
Jay County – Milo Miller
Knox County - Rama Sobhani
Wells County - Scott Elzey

Meeting minutes

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

John Gettinger called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. He asked everyone to introduce themselves. Dale Brier announced that Rama Sobhani had given his proxy to Dave Hacker. Mike Beauchamp asked to have 2016 grant discussion added to new business. Gettinger added pollution discussion to new business. Kara Kish had a funding request to add under new funding.

Comments from Visitors and Guests

None

Review and Approval of July 9, 2014 Minutes

Bob Shepherd moved to approve the minutes as written. Larry Southard seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report

Gettinger attended the recent Posey County event that the WRHCC sponsored. He will be working at the 39th Sullivan County eighth grade Wabash River float trip on September 30. He has attended every event from the beginning. He also took part in a kids float trip in Vermillion and Parke counties.

Finance Report

Dale Brier had a handout showing the revenue and expenditures of the Wabash Heritage Corridor Fund for the new fiscal year (see attached). He mentioned that all 2012 grants were now encumbered from the fund. A motion was made to accept the report as written, and the motion passed.

Budget Report

Bob Shepherd reported there had been no changes to the budget.

Committee Report

- **Executive** - No report
- **Banks of the Wabash** - No report

Old Business

- **Newport Chemical Depot Land "Re-Use"** – The project has a new name, Vermillion Rise. Phil Cox gave a brief history of the project for those who were not familiar with the 75-acre project. The Commission agreed that this topic does not need to be on the agenda for every meeting. Reports can be given when needed.
- **Wabash River Road route** – Ken Einselen told the group that he still waiting on information from some counties.
- **Asian carp** – Gettinger discussed the problems with Asian Carp getting into Lake Michigan. The Wabash River Defenders were showing off their new slogan, "You have to eat 'em to beat 'em." To aid this effort, many people are now calling the Asian carp Wabash Silvertail to make them sound more appealing. The Commission agreed that this topic does not need to be on the agenda for every meeting. Reports can be given when needed.
- **Funding requests from July meeting**
Banks of the Wabash (from May meeting, tabled in July) — There was no new information to answer the budget questions from July. Kara Kish motioned to table the request again, Bob Shepherd seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

- **New funding requests**
 - **Little Turtle Waterway fundraiser** – Mercedes Brugh made a request for \$1,000 to sponsor a float and breakfast at Little Turtle Waterway. The event is a fundraiser for the Little Turtle Waterway and an event that will help promote the Wabash River. The final date of the event has not been set, but it is planned for June 2015.
 - **Art Spaces planning project** – Kara Kish asked for a \$1000 sponsorship on behalf of Art Spaces. The "Turn to the River" project will connect downtown Terre Haute to the Wabash River. The request is for the planning and design phase of the project. The total budget is \$25,00, and \$23,000 has been raised already. Mary Kramer will be at the next WRHCC meeting to answer any questions about the project.

- **Pollution** – John Gettinger brought up the topic of uncapped wells in the Wabash. Should that be a priority for the WRHCC? He wanted to hear an update from DNR Oil and Gas at a future meeting. Kish said this would be a topic for future strategic planning when we have more information. Dale Brier volunteered to ask Mary Estrada to speak to the Commission.
- **2016 Grants** – Mike Beauchamp thought there should be a campsite in every county in the Wabash corridor. He said it would be a good goal for the 2016 bicentennial. The group thought this would be a better topic for future strategic planning sessions and a long-term goal of the commission.

10 minute break at 2:30 pm.

Strategic Planning (session 2)

Kara Kish started with a handout from the previous strategic planning session showing progress. Goal 2 still needs some input, but we should move on to Goal 3. After some discussion the third Goal was set at Commission participation. This is more than just having people attend meetings, but getting all member involved in the enhancement and protection of the corridor. Goal 4 will be the Wabash water trail. Some of the ground work for this goal has already been done, but it needs follow through and completion. Kish will lead another planning session at the next WRHCC meeting where more specific tasks and details for all four goals will be generated.

Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion

- **River Currents** – Please send article to Sue Ulrich.
- **Upcoming committee meetings** – none
- **Other county or special event announcements, Festival dates for next year, etc.**
 - Terre Haute is having a wellness event on Oct 4.
 - Eagle March is having a Monarch butterfly festival on September 13.
- **Final comments by Commission members, alternates, and guests**
 - Kish announced that Wabashiki Park has entered into an agreement with Indiana State University (ISU). They will contribute \$25,000 a year to help with park maintenance.
 - Larry Southard asked if the grant deadline could be extended. Brier said it could not be changed.
 - Dave Hacker reported an inner tube float in Huntington drew around 100 people.
 - Ron Zartman attended a ribbon cutting for the new bridge in Delphi back in July.

Next Meeting: November 12, 2014 in Tippecanoe County

Big Four Depot, 1 p.m.

Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. at McGraw's Steak and Chop House for those interested.

48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

FY15 as of 08/31/2014

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
431401	AD - Oil and Gas royalty along		\$ 49,755.08
510101	Payroll Salaries & Wages	\$ 1,347.60	
516003	Payroll Social Security	\$ 93.60	
517003	Payroll Perf St Pd Em COnt	\$ 40.43	
517005	Payroll PERF State Share	\$ 150.93	
518105	Anthem CDHP1	\$ 16.14	
518151	Anthem Trad 2	\$ 122.68	
518606	Payroll Life Insurance	\$ 1.99	
518798	Payroll Delta Dental Trad	\$ 6.50	
518800	Anthem Vision	\$ 0.91	
518901	Payroll Employee Assistance	\$ 0.21	
519006	Payroll Long Term Disability	\$ 23.59	
519503	Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch	\$ 9.10	
519721	Payroll Health Savings Acct 1	\$ 1.44	
541002	Mot Veh Ex - Gasoline	\$ 59.57	
595110	InState Travel - Mileage	\$ 903.76	
599116	AdmOp-Event Sponsor	\$ 2,000.00	
659410	Postage	\$ 104.34	

Total FY15 Expense To Date: \$ 4,882.79

Fund Balance:		
	6/30/2014	419,011
FY15 revenues		49,755
FY15 Expenses		4,883
FY15 Encumbrances		65,550
balance as of 8/31/2014		398,333

DNR payroll	\$ 1,815.12
travel costs	\$ 963.33
sponsorships	\$ 2,000.00
operating	\$ 104.34
Total	\$ 4,882.79