

**Cass River Greenway Meeting Minutes**  
**November 7, 2018**  
**Vassar City Office 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**2018 River Cleanup Recap**

Gene Suppii reported on the phase 2 cleanup of tires and large items left over from the first cleanup. The two groups worked very hard to overcome the low water levels and large number of tires encountered.

Gene outlined a number of lessons learned which can be put into practice next year. One important equipment addition would be a vehicle with an electric winch to pull heavy items up a steep bank.

**2019 River Cleanup Plan**

Gene suggested, and the committee agreed, that next year we continue our work downstream of the areas cleaned the last two years (downstream of Cass City and upstream of Caro). Gene and Nancy will develop a proposal for our spring meeting.

**Caine Road Launch & Kiosk Project**

Russ Fall reported that all items planned for the Caine Road Launch are complete and thanked the participants for their support. It was noted that the site is experiencing significant useage by paddlers and fishermen.

**Hoffmann Community Park Launch**

It was reported that construction modifications will be made to accommodate the planned floating dock. The launch should be useable next season. The park will remain closed until the revisions are complete.

**Log Jam**

A large log jam has been reported to be downstream of Bridgeport between Davis Park and the M-13 Boat Launch (near the Bridgeport Waste Water Treatment Plant). Portage around the log jam is not a viable option. A MDEQ permit has been issued for removal.

No significant funding sources have been identified. Ideas for soliciting support are being developed.

**Cass River WaterTrail Website**

Bob Zeilinger reported that the new website [www.cassriverwatertrail.org](http://www.cassriverwatertrail.org) is up and running. Everyone is encouraged to log on and explore the site.

### **New WaterTrail Brochure**

Jeanna Rogner, Premier Promotions Graphic Design/Marketing, has begun design work on a new, updated Cass River WaterTrail Brochure. Brochures will be printed and available for next year's paddling season.

### **319 Manure Management Project**

It was reported that the project has been closed out without any success. There were no livestock owners who chose to participate in the project.

### **Wickes Park Launch**

Bob Zeilinger reported on an active project to install an EZ Launch floating dock launch at Wickes Park. This will be a great addition to the end point of our watertrail.

### **Phragmites Control Project for 2018**

Will Green reported that the treatment of 3 townships (Juniata, Indianfields and Fremont) has been completed. Pending Tuscola County Road Commission approval, next year we suggest they treat, Tuscola, Vassar and Millington townships.

### **First Impressions Tourism (FIT)**

Jim Mcloskey reported that MSU Extension and Cass City are partnering to explore projects that will make their area more "tourist friendly". Resident input is being gathered – one suggestion is the development of a river access site (canoe/kayak launch). Future meetings/workshops are being scheduled.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2019 1:00 – 3:00PM**  
**At the Vassar City Office**

Bob Zeilinger  
November 7, 2018