

**Cass River Greenway Meeting Minutes**  
**August 7, 2019**  
**Vassar City Office 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**New CRG Banners**

Bob demonstrated the two new banners we have for use at events and presentations. One is a rollup banner of the Cass River Watershed and the other is a poster board display of the Cass River Water Trail.

**Log Jam Update**

Bill Wheeler reported the contractor was able to remove approximately 75% of the log jam near the waste treatment facility, thereby opening up the river for paddling purposes. However, since the spring thaw and flooding, a new smaller log jam has formed about 3/4 mile downstream of the original log jam. Bill is working with the contractor and property owners to address both sites. Update: Original log jam is still open and passable, still working on a plan for the second log jam.

**Hoffmann Park Launch Update**

Modifications have been made to the head wall (lowered it by 2 feet) and the asphalt path has been replaced with concrete. The floating dock will not be installed this year due to the lateness of the construction. Therefore, Hoffmann Park will be closed until next paddling season.

**Wickes Park Launch and M-13 Boat Launch Updates**

Wickes Park on the Saginaw River is the end point of the Cass River Water Trail. Funding has been secured to install a floating dock launch similar to what is in place at Heritage Park, Davis Park and Hoffmann Park. The installation of the floating dock launch was planned for early August. However, due to the high water in Lake Huron/Saginaw Bay, the Saginaw River water level is covering the walking path. It was decided to delay installation of the floating dock until the water recedes. M-13 Boat Launch improvements are planned for 2019, including parking lot improvements and additional signage. The project is waiting on an approved EGLE (DEQ) permit.

## **2019 Calendar of Events – August and September Events**

August 4 The Tri-Bavarian Triathlon in Frankenmuth

August 16 – 18 The Great Lakes Rendezvous in Bridgeport

August 23 Sturgeon Release in Frankenmuth

September 16 – 18 Walk Thru History in Bridgeport

September 20 – 22 Open House at the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge

September 21 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Cass River Cleanup in Ellington Township

See our CRG website for details.

### **Terrain360 Project**

Bob began the report by recapping the history of Terrain360, the plan to map the Cass River, how it was funded, and how the data will be used. Each member who participated in the 3 day mapping process reported on their experience. The group thoroughly enjoyed the project and we are looking forward to the edited results. We hope to post the various watertrail segments to our water trail website.

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Cass River Clean Up – September 21**

Gene Suoppi and Nancy Barrios updated the group on plans for this year's clean up. Volunteers will gather at Kappan Tree Service, 2799 Hurds Corner Road and clean approximately 4 miles of river in Ellington Township, between Cass City and Caro. See our website for more details.

### **State Land/Tuscola County Parks**

Robert McKay reported that the potential acquisition is still active, but will be a long term project. The next step involves completing land surveys.

### **August 23 Sturgeon Release**

Michelle VanderHaar reported on the Sturgeon Restoration project for the Saginaw Bay Watershed. Yearly sturgeon plants are planned for 4 rivers in our watershed, including the Cass. The next plant will occur at noon on August 24 near the rock ramp in Frankenmuth.

A second plant will occur on September 21.

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

Bob Zeilinger

May 3, 2019