

Cass River Greenway Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2019
Vassar City Office 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Log Jam Update

The Bridgeport log jam removal project began on March 4 and expected to be completed by March 9.

Hoffmann Park Launch Update

Modifications to the launch will begin as soon as weather permits and completion is expected by the beginning of the summer paddling season.

Wickes Park Launch Update

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. Also, other improvements are being planned to make the park more useable for a variety of activities.

2019 Calendar of Events

We need to update our Cass River Greenway website for our 2019 events. Bob will contact the “event organizers” for the details to post.

New Water Trail and CRG Brochures

Bob distributed copies of our new water trail and CRG brochures. The design and printing was funded by grants from the Dr. Ed and Dorothy Scollon Family Foundation and Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN). The design was done by Premier Promotions.

Sanilac County Parks

Roger Ballard, representing Sanilac County Parks, attended the meeting and gave an overview of Sanilac County Parks, with emphasis on Evergreen Park located on the South Branch of the Cass River just downstream of the M-53 bridge. Roger stated that Sanilac County Parks is very supportive of paddling and water trails, and they would like to see more access sites located on the upper Cass River, including Evergreen Park.

Pinney Foundation Grant

Nancy reported on the \$500 funding grant received from the Pinney Foundation. The money was used to purchase 8 life vests and 4 GPS units that will be used on future river clean ups.

2019 River Cleanup Plan

Nancy reported that our 2019 river clean up is scheduled for September 21, which coincides with National Clean Up Day. We will clean areas downstream of Cass City and use the Kappan Tree Service location as clean up headquarters. More information will be available at future CRG meetings.

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. Funds contributed from the Cass River Greenway account were reimbursed.

Phragmites Control Project for 2019

Bill Green reported that the Tuscola County Road Commission has approved a phragmites treatment plan again for 2019. It was agreed to treat Tuscola, Vassar and Millington townships in the fall.

Terrain360 Project

Bob reported on a major new project being planned in the Thumb Region. The project has been initiated by the I-69 Thumb Region who will hire a company to “photo map” portions of the Cass River, Shiawassee River, Flint River, Tip of the Thumb Water Trail and others. Because portions of these rivers lie outside the I-69 Thumb Region (ie. Saginaw County), the Saginaw County Parks organization is pursuing funding to include river and land trails in their county.

The company uses a camera mounted in their “boat” and shoots 360 degree photos of the river at 40 meter intervals. The photo data will be made available to us for our use. This would be a great addition to our website. The plan is to “map” the Cass River the week of May 20th. Local volunteers will be needed to float the river before hand to insure no blockages are encountered and to accompany the photographers on their journey. Details will be discussed at our next CRG meeting.

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

Bob Zeilinger
March 7, 2019