



Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards

Minutes of PACRS Member Meeting July 15, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Lure Bar & Grill – Nekoosa, WI

In attendance: Rick Georgeson, Scott Bordeau, Steve Taylor, Colette & Tom Camerano, Virgil Miller, Mark Diedrich, Wayne Gjernsvig, Rick Potter, Paul Pisellini, Wally Sedlar, Gerry Ganther, Jim Stewart, Larry Everson, Fred Dudek, John Erm, Mike Coke

Call to Order: President, Rick Georgeson called the meeting to order at 10:12.

Secretary's Report: Colette Camerano distributed June 2016 Minutes by email and regular mail. Jes Roloff, WRPCO, gave a presentation on the management of the Shoreline Commons Area (SCA). The Jersey Valley Watershed Tour was also discussed. Virgil Miller made a motion to approve the minutes. Rick Potter seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed. Colette also stated that paid memberships are up 10% from 2015.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor provided the financial update on current bank balances. \$98.00 was spent on the new projection screen. Income from membership was \$260.00. Colette Camerano made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Mark Diedrich seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Communication Report: Scott Bordeau gave a report on communication progress. We have 351 people that "like" us on Facebook. Scott provided information on tourism income that was released from UW Extension. Wisconsin income from tourism in 2015 was 19 billion dollars. 1 in 5 jobs are tied to the tourism industry. In 2015, Adams County brought in \$212 million, Wood County \$86 million and Juneau County \$64 million. Tourism income was up from 2014. Adams County showed a 4.5% increase.

Keytainers are being distributed by the boat inspectors at the two launches. The Castle Rock launch was extremely busy on July 3rd. The boat inspector, Matt, was talking with the boaters that were lined up to launch their boats.

PACRS WearT-shirts, Caps: Caps and t-shirts are available for purchase. There is an order form for the apparel. Colette will follow up with a couple of area businesses to determine if there is interest in ordering shirts for the business to resell. She will contact Bay Rest and the Lure.

Fundraiser Discussion: The fundraising committee will be meeting on July 29th at Bay Rest. Gerry Ganther will be ordering 50 large signs to place at businesses. 500 small flyers will be ordered and the boat inspectors will be given a supply to hand out at the boat launches. Colette will be working on obtaining larger weather proof signs for the outdoors.

Invite Farmers to the Lake: PACRS has invited the Mill Creek Farmers plus other farmers from Adams and Juneau County to spend a morning with us discussing water quality. The algae blooms in the



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summer months have affected businesses, residents and tourists from enjoying our lakes. We understand this issue can't be addressed by just one group of people. It will take all of us working together to improve the water quality.

John Eron Mill Creek Farm Tour: The Farmers of Mill Creek hosted a "Conservation Day" on June 25th. John Eron opened up his farm in Stevens Point for tours and conversation. John joined us at this PACRS meeting to describe who these farmers are, their conservation efforts and answer questions.

The Farmers of Mill Creek are a group of farmers that have come together because they care about the soil, water, and farmers. They want to further educate themselves and their neighbors on phosphorous best management practices with the goal of improving water quality of Mill Creek in Portage and Wood County.

The Mill Creek Watershed includes 165 square miles in Eastern Wood and Portage Counties. The creek is 45 miles long from its mouth at the Wisconsin River to its headwaters near Marshfield. The watershed is listed by the DNR as being severely affected by non-point source (NPS) pollution. The DNR states the water quality can be controlled or corrected with best management practices (BMP).

John Eron is the lead farmer in Mill Creek and practices several BMPs that control phosphorous from getting into streams and rivers. John practices conventional tillage and no-till. John excavated ponds in his field that collect his field water runoff. He captures the runoff so the soil does not leave his farm. Phosphorous attaches to the soil. When soil stays on his farm, the less phosphorous get into the streams and rivers.

John, his group of farmers from Mill Creek and others from Juneau and Adams counties will be coming to Lake Petenwell on August 19th.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, August 19th – Special presentation for the Farmers followed by lunch and a pontoon tour of Lake Petenwell

10:00 a.m. to Noon

**Lure Bar & Grill
1735 Archer Lane
Nekoosa, WI. 54457**

Meeting adjourned 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colette Camerano,
Secretary