

## Pearl Island Committee Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2017

Roll call – Members:	Present	Absent	Advisors:	Present	Absent
Paul Roemer	x		Dick Benesh	x	
Jerry Elmer	x		Cindy Miller		x
Jeff Peterson	x		Teresa Peters		x
Rich Vogel	x		Gary Voegeli		x
Amber Foster			Ed Mikkelson		x

Discuss/Possible Action approval of April minutes. Minor correction was made. Motion by Paul, second by Jeff to approve minutes with correction. Motion passed.

Public Appearances - None.

Committee comments or questions – Paul mentioned concerns some people have with the logging of the south end of the forestry wetland area and the amount of ground disruption. Rich explained that 80% of the trees are Ash and all are infected and will soon die. If we leave them they will be dead trees not providing shade or tacking up water. With the added sunlight, invasive weeds will choke all other vegetation out. The lack of living trees could also cause the area to swamp. DNR State Forester recommended clear cutting all Ash in that area, destroying invasive plants and then replanting as many trees as possible if the area doesn't swamp. So any ground disruption is the least of our concerns. Rich and the DLMRA are looking into a grant to destroy the weeds and replant the area.

Amber is no longer able to record our work hours for DNR reimbursement so the committee is looking into other options. Amber volunteered a tremendous number of hours since the beginning of the project and did a fantastic job. We are all very thankful for all she has helped us with.

Discussed how much of the grant we believe we will be able to match. Projects to complete are bridge, shelter house, another pit toilet, more benches, trash containers, picnic tables and completion of trails. Also discussed was the idea of blacktopping the main trail and parking lots if we could get the backing from the City or another organization to cover our costs and then be reimbursed after we receive the matching money from the DNR. Rich will set up a meeting with MSA and the DNR to discuss our plans.

Next meeting set for June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to Adjourn by Jerry, second by Paul. Motion passed.