

Flute Reed Partnership Meeting Minutes

Feb. 27, 2008

Present: Chel Anderson, Dick Betz, Rick Schubert and by phone, Brian Fredrickson and Dave Stark

Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm

Minutes from January approved

Business:

1. We discussed the Flute Reed Water Monitoring Plan which is almost completed. We'll make this available to anyone wishing to see it as soon as it's finished. Rick explained how the Surface Water Assessment Grant monitoring requirements is part of the plan. The monitoring at the three additional sites over the Chicago Bay bridge and the temperature probes are also part of the plan, but separate from the grant.

A monitoring training day is scheduled for March 24 at Rick's house and on the river. It starts a 10 am and should be over by 3 pm. Lunch provided by FRP. Trainers will be from the MPCA. Open to all interested in the Flute Reed River.

2. We discussed our tree planting project. This is separate from our planting at the new bridge site on North Road. We hope to plant 500 trees along the riparian zone of the river and/or its tributaries. (The riparian zone is the area bordering the river.) We hope this will be the first year of many for planting trees. It will be promoted to all landowners in the watershed in a mailing the first part of April and a poster at the Hovland post office.

200 trees have been ordered from Hedstrom Lumber Co and the balance will be ordered through the Soil & Water tree sale. We have a workshop scheduled with the Minn Extension Service for May 8 on "How to Plant Trees". Planting will all be done with volunteers and is scheduled for Saturday, May 10 and May 17. We will need at least 10-12 volunteers each day so please mark your calendars!! We'll split into teams and make it fun!

We set up some criteria for successful planting:

Planting this first year will be limited to within 50 yards of the river. Sites must have road or trail access within a couple hundred feet. We will plant and protect with fencing at the same time. Sites need to be north of North Road.

We will do a pre-planting site visit to make sure it is appropriate and the property owner or representative will need to be present.

Sites this first year will be limited to the first five that qualify.

We talked about liability issues and will be looking into this further. Suggestions welcome!

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm