



Unofficial Minutes – March 14, 2007
Wil Dilg Chapter, Izaak Walton League

The meeting convened at 6:30 at the Monarch Tavern in Fountain City. Pizza and conversation was enjoyed by all. The following summarizes key discussion and action:

1. The Chapter agreed to host the Fall State meeting, with Sharon elected as the lead to organize the event. Other members will assist in cooperation with Char in the State Office. Sharon will follow up with Char to get more details and logistic information. The discussion included activities we could organize for the meeting participants. These included; visiting with the Swan Tracking program folks (if possible given migration timing and bird locations), a combined Trempealeau Refuge visit and boat tour on the WSU house boat, a tour and hay ride through Eagle Valley near Fountain City, meeting and dinner site at Holzinger Lodge, a possible geocaching event to replicate the summer youth activity we are sponsoring, and a presentation by the SOS folks from the Cochrane Fountain City School.
2. Geocaching event. We agreed to begin planning for a geocaching-based event in Trempealeau Refuge to expose participants (targeted at youth) to the areas cultural history and its ecology. The event will be done in partnership with the FWS Refuge and conducted in late June or early July. Barry will take the lead to start planning and working with the FWS. Cindy Samples, FWS Refuge recreation planning has expressed interest in the Chapter taking advantage of their developing geocaching program.
3. Mike Kennedy made the motion that we initiate a membership campaign with each member recruiting a new person. We will add an agenda item to each meeting for each person reporting their recruitment success. Mike commented that the Chapter's growing community exposure is generating interest we should be taking advantage of. He also commented that he is encountering a growing number of past members that may have interest in rejoining. The motion past unanimously and Sharon handed out membership forms to all present.
4. Mike also discussed his discussion with the local Charter school regarding the Save our Streams program and our grant to CFC. The Charter school is very interest in also developing a SOS program and will be submitting a grant to the Chapter to implement that effort. We discussed our support for this effort and the possibility of partnering with the Hiawatha Valley Audubon Club to fund the SOS effort. The discussion seemed to support implementation regardless of the Audubon participation. We will probably see a grant request from them very soon as they would like to start implementing immediately. They are also very interested in coordinating with CFC science teachers to compare and coordinate their developing programs.
5. We also had a limited discussion about developing a Chapter Website. Drazkowski volunteered to look into developing a site under the current UMBSN website (www.umbsn.org), since they have a mission of support conservation activities.
6. The next scheduled meeting is April 11th.

By Barry Drazkowski
Acting Secretary