Conservation Advisory Board of Grand Island
January 24, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Present: Bob Wynne, Paul Yaeger, Jim Czapla, Ed Standora, Sam Akinbami, Alice Gerard, Diane Evans, Tom Burke (alternate) Mike Madigan (liaison). Excused: Sue Tomkins, Jeff Green

Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm by Diane Evans

1. Consent Agenda - Bob moved to accept the Dec. 20 meeting minutes. Alice seconded. Carried.

2. CAB Education Committee Update - Several board members met recently and suggested we pursue the following education programs:
   A. Waterkeeper program about the project at Spicer Creek, Little Beaver Island, and their Riverwatch teams.
   B. An arbor day event at the high school on Saturday, May 4. Dr. Brian Graham, Superintendent, really wants to see this happen.
   C. A composting program in June (?) in coordination with the agricultural/farm group on the Island.
   D. A September guided walk at Gallogly if the trail system is in place.
   E. Ed's program on turtles in November.

   These are ideas right now. We may not get to them all, but we will be reaching out to partners to see which ones we can make happen.

3. Restoration Projects on Niagara River - Encourage anyone with comments to send to the project manager, Dave Spiering. Our letter to him was sent in December. Ed Standora has been in touch with Dave. They are working out how to best accommodate nesting turtles. We are concerned about negative reactions from some boaters about the restoration on Grass Island. Should boat clubs or boat retailers be contacted? Tom will find out the dimensions of the discharge pipe, from the sewer plant, that runs through Grass Island.

4. Tree Ordinance - There was much discussion about reactions to the ordinance from Planning Board (Jan. 14 meeting which Jeff, Diane, Sue and Ed attended), and EDAB (Economic Development Advisory Board). EDAB sent a letter to Town Council. This letter was sent to CAB members via email. Objections include concern about permits for cutting trees on private land, enforcement, too much power in a subcommittee. If was suggested Jeff, Mike and Diane call a special meeting with chairs of EDAB, Planning, and Parks and Rec boards to discuss concerns/questions. It was acknowledged that passing an ordinance will be a necessary step to becoming a Tree City USA.
5. **Town Board Report** - Footprint Festival is happening this weekend, Sat. Jan. 26, at Beaver Island State Park. Many events going on that day, flyers passed out. Paul will be exhibiting his wood carvings. Design for Nike Base community building rehab is in progress. Town is pursuing a large grant for wastewater/water quality infrastructure improvements. The Town will need to qualify and make a 25% match.

6. **Additional News/Announcements** - Diane reported that Long Range Planning Committee is asking CAB for advise on inland boundaries for our creeks. We looked at maps and decided to recommend that the creek boundaries be extended back to their headwaters. If a creek becomes ephemeral before that (doesn't keep water all year) the boundary need not go all the way back to the headwaters.

   Alice announced there will be an exhibit of her art at the library in February. Go Alice!

   Bob moved to adjourn meeting at 9:00, Alice seconded. Carried. Next meeting is February 28.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Evans
Recording Secretary