

**SOUTH HAVEN STEELHEADERS
MEETING MINUTES
South Haven Moose Club**

Date: August 18, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Antonson, Chapman, Crago, Foster, Keebler, Mills, Morris, Strong

Number of members present: 34

Number of guests present: 1

Call to Order: the meeting was called to order by Keebler at 7:00pm.

Prior to the start of the business meeting, Keebler introduced John Mitchell from the Bangor/South Haven Watershed Association, who showed members the new sign showing that our Chapter helped sponsor the development of their new heritage water trail along a 20-mile stretch of the Black River. The Association began in 2004. Mitchell spoke about dredging being an issue, especially near Bangor. Sponsor signs will be posted at each of the 15 bridges along the water trail. Creating the “path” in the river also promotes fish habitat. Sections close to both South Haven and Bangor are already developed, but there is a “wilderness area” still undeveloped in the middle section of the trail. Association members and volunteers make a pathway in the river, cleaning out debris, logs, fallen branches, etc. so that kayaks can get through. A variety of organizations and businesses have donated to the trail; he mentioned two in particular: Abermarle and Entergy. Their website is www.vbco.org/watertrail.org. The signs will go up in the next two weeks. Mr. Mitchell answered a variety of questions from members.

Keebler also welcomed back Tom Peterson who has not been able to attend meetings for almost two years because of health reasons. He is doing much better.

I. Secretary’s Report:

The secretary’s report for July was read; one correction was made. *Motion by Stegman, second by Antonson, to approve the report as corrected. Passed.*

II Treasurer’s Report: Chapman provided a treasurer’s report for July/August, 2011. *Motion by Mills, second by Stegman, to approve the report. Passed.*

III. Correspondence: None
A.

IV. Old Business:

A. Advertisement for the Fish Boil: Carolyn Rodriguez was very instrumental in getting all the radio spots for the Boil; Do-It Corporation’s Mark McClendon provided the many attractive yard signs about the Boil. Foster was directed to send letters of thanks to both.

B. Fish Boil Follow-up: Many thanks were expressed to all who helped make our Fish Boil a success. Olson said that everything went so smoothly that “it was scary.” Shrink-wrapping the fish, done by Bob Filbrandt and Jim Morris, was very helpful. Thanks also to Jim Page for making the sandwich boards. No tee shirts were made this year, but our young ladies sold many of the previous year’s shirts. We served 925 meals, more than last year, an excellent accomplishment considering the weather. A donation jar was put out by Jim Morris to help support our scholarships, and \$87 was collected. We also had a donation of \$56 by Jeff Filbrandt. Deb French from MSSFA brought newspapers for people at the Boil. Kevin Ayles reported on an informal survey that he took of people in line, asking them how they heard about the Boil, having the Boil on Saturday instead of Friday, etc. Our yard and sandwich board signs seemed to be the

main way people knew about it. Kevin and others felt that we need a sign explaining what the Boil is and what's in it, and also a sign about the Steelheaders and our Chapter: who we are and what we do. Kevin agreed to help develop the signs for the coming years; Super will help.

- C. Fishing Equipment and Lures:** It was discovered that the equipment and lures that Steinmiller reported about last meeting that he found thrown out were from Medler's boat. They were either stolen or thrown away accidentally, but have now been returned.
- D. MSSFA Purchases:** Keebler said we have received the two pairs of life-jacket suspenders from the state; we will use them in a raffle at our annual banquet in December.

V. New Business:

- A. Black River Park and Sea Wall Addition:** Burr reported about several new grants that are being applied for. One is for \$310K for wooden walkways along the bank just upriver from our current sea wall. Large rocks will be underneath the walkways to promote fish habitat. The area will include a footbridge over the channel from the current sea wall, a picnic area, canoe/kayak launch, a water garden to be tended by public school students, etc. Other grants, some very substantial, are being sought for additional improvements and bike trails.
- B. Coloma Salmon in the Schools:** Keebler said that we initially lost our coordinator for the program in Coloma, but he is now back on staff and the program will continue.
- C. Speakers for Next Meeting:** Keebler suggested that we have Dennis Eade, Executive Director, and/or Rick Balabon, President, both of MSSFA, as guest speakers next meeting. Members concurred.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion by Matthies, second by Strong, to adjourn the meeting. Passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Foster, Secretary