



Mississippi River Parkway Commission

701 East Washington Avenue, Suite 202
Madison, WI 53703



Minutes of the ERA Committee Meeting
Dates: April 23rd and 24th, 2015

Committee Members Present on April 23rd: Nani Bhowmik from IL.; Bob Miller from WI; Jay Schweitzer from IA; Williams Reynolds and Brian Brian Smackoski, Great River Strategy Team from MN; Michelle Burrell from MS; and Cynthia Wheeler from MN.

Committee Members present on 24th April are: Nani Bhowmik from IL; Bob Miller from WI; Michelle Burrell from MS; Cynthia Wheeler from MN; and Jay Schweitzer.

The Great River Strategy team members discussed topics on public health; active transportation, quality of the road to go to the river, management of the facilities, movement of the trains carrying Cracking materials, movement of oil trains along the GRR, problems with the injection of cracking liquids, biking lanes along the GRR, use of excessive fertilizers on farm fields, how do we define the public waters and what it is, problems with animal waste and other related topics.

Other discussion at the ERA Committee meeting included topics on the River survey, how to reach small businesses, could the survey be done over the internet; face book, could request survey respondents to include photos of their travel, could consider to have small cards for conducting the survey, may have to develop a plan of action, and a request was made to all those present at the meeting to send their recommendations for the Stewardship Awards.

Bob Miller also discussed in detail about the Geotourism Project, funding that they have now, public information meeting that have been conducted or to be conducted; funding that will be needed on an annual basis and that the core members have to be involved for few years and will have to provide their services.