



Mississippi River Parkway Commission

ERA Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2023

In attendance: Sabrina (WI), Roz (WI), Lesley (IA), Norma (KY), Francis (WI), Anne (MN), Edmund (TN), John (MN), Vanessa Perry (MN), Susanne (NO)

Everyone introduced themselves and welcomed Vanessa Perry, a new member from MN-DNR. She has a unique role and is plugged into lots of Mississippi River and Upper Basin activities. One of the objectives is for state DRN technical representation on this committee.

Discussion followed about the need to engage more members (other state agency representatives) and get others involved.

Financial recap that \$500 from this committee was transferred to Transportation committee for use toward MRT's legal fees.

The Pollinator Playbook developed by TN is online at-
<https://mrpcmembers.com/mississippi/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Pollinator-Playbook-9.20.23.pdf>

Roz spoke of the Mississippi River Operation Pollination Partnership and the launch in La Crosse on September 28, attended by more than 50 people representing many organizations. She plans to share the Pollinator Playbook with the other organizations. She mentioned upcoming training and the development of documents through ESRAG, as well as a pollinator storybook. It would be good for all states to sign and show their support in addition to the 10-state MRPC. MN and WI signed.

Sabrina made a pun "pollinates itself" but true how it spreads. She shared info with Chris Stein from NPS and pollinator contact with Fish and Wildlife.

New project – Corps of Engineers STL district – Great Rivers Pollinators Habitat.

Uppermiss100.com is set up to promote the 100th anniversary of the Upper Mississippi Refuge. Planning for the June anniversary event is in full swing. We need to take advantage of this event in promoting the Great River Road and MRPC.