

Geological Society of Minnesota Board Meeting Minutes Aug 8, 2024.

Prepared by Stephen Willging

Final Date: 08/24/2024

Meeting: Thursday 08/08/2024, 6:30pm

Location: U Garden Restaurant

Board Members Present

David Wilhelm

Stephen Willging

Dave Kelso

Dick Bottenberg

Kate Clover

Roger Benepe

Lowell Hill

Deborah Naffziger

Pete Hesse

Non-Board attendees

Patrick Pfundstein (arrived late)

Mary Helen Inskeep (arrived late)

Steve Erickson

Alan Smith

Kay Smith

Meeting was called to order at 6:30p as a quorum of Board members were present.

Agenda Topics:

1. Treasurer's report – Dave Kelso

Movement of GSM investment funds to Merrill Lynch – Dave Kelso

See attached Treasurer's report in Appendix A. Note: The Extra Space Storage rental cost was up about \$10 / month. The GSM's former RBC representative has moved to Merrill Lynch. She has not responded to Dave K's inquiries about potentially moving the GSM accounts to Merrill Lynch. **Deborah N. will try to contact Tiffany to get things moving.**

Recently, it was noted that the GSM mailbox at the University Station in Minneapolis has not been checked for some time. Stephen W. volunteered to periodically check the mailbox as he lives in the neighborhood. **Dave K. will give Stephen W. his key at the Fall banquet.**

2. Lectures & Labs – Steve Erickson.

Waiting for revised title for the Sept 16th (Fall Banquet) lecture from the USGS speaker. Steve E. is looking for a speaker for the Dec 9th lecture. It may be a Zoom lecture which would be the 3rd Zoom lecture of the Fall. It could be the "Geology of Bridge Construction" lecture which was cancelled twice last session. He also needs two more speakers for the Spring series. Monday Jan 27th and the Spring Banquet are needed. **Steve E is working on it. If anyone has any suggestions let Steve E. know.**

3. Annual meeting – Sept 16 at U Garden in conjunction with Fall Banquet and first lecture.

Dick Bottenberg, Kate Clover, and Steve Willging are completing one 2-year term and are eligible for re-election. **Dick B., Kate C. and Stephen W. have indicated they are interested in continuing as Board members for another 2-year term.** See Appendix B for current and recent Board member terms.

Pete Hesse is completing his second consecutive 2-year term, so we will need a replacement for him on the Board. **David W. will send out a request to the GSM membership for nominations for Pete H. replacement on the GSM Board.**

David W., Roger B. and Dick B. will look into potential rock hammer recipients for Fall Banquet presentation.

4. Video/Zoom recordings – Dick Bottenberg

Not much progress on editing lecture videos as Joe Wright has been busy. There are 3 recordings in process. The Spring Banquet video is the best looking. It should be ready by the Fall Banquet. All Zoom recordings are online. The video equipment is looking good.

Steve E, asked what are the most popular videos on GSM's U-Tube site. He is interested as possible lecture topics. Patrick P. indicated the Trilobite lecture was the most popular. Dinosaur topics were number 2. **Patrick P. will send viewing data to Steve E.**

5. Membership – Joanie Furlong (Joanie was not at the meeting but did send the following report).

No one picked up the mail since the last lecture. Next year we should pick up the mail at least every 6 weeks during the summer. (This was addressed in Agenda topic 1).

Received two contributions for the general funds. One \$225 and another \$468.75 donation from GSM members.

Three new memberships came in over the summer. Here are their reasons for joining:

- Looking for local geology organizations
- I'm Volunteering in the Paleontology Lab at the Science Museum of MN and hear about all of meetings I've missed.
- I spoke to a couple of your representatives at your booth at some event-the State Fair, perhaps.

September is renewal month. 108 members are up for renewal out of 176. **Joannie F. will send out emails to members that are up for renewal. Also emails if they have renewed for multiple years and that are not due.**

**6. State Fair and other venues to promote GSM – Patrick Pfundstein
Science Museum Dino Fest – Dave Wilhelm**

David W., Deborah N. and Alfred Knauth manned a table at the Science Museum of Minnesota's Dino Fest on Aug 3rd. They handed out about 60 lecture brochures.

State Fair booth sign ups have been weak so far. **Patrick P. will send a second request to David W. to forward to GSM members asking more members to sign up for the State Fair booth. Patrick P. will also send a request for help with the State Fair booth set up. Deborah N., Kate C., Dick B. all indicated they could help with the booth set up.**

Patrick P. indicated the drop-dead date for information for the State Fair brochure is Aug 20th.

7. GSM markers – Becky Galkiewicz has resigned as chair (see letter in Appendix C), so we need a replacement. (Becky will assist with transition; Dave W has her materials.)

David W. will send out a letter to members requesting potential replacements for Becky G. Becky has been focused on keeping track of existing markers. There may be a job description for the marker chair in the operating manual. **David W. will thank her in the next newsletter. In the meantime, Dick B. will work with Becky to provide current assessment of the Minnesota Geological Road Marker project, including if possible:**

- The status of and participation in the "Do-it-yourself Geology Field Trips" project and recommendations regarding the DIY Trip project.
- Any available status regarding the condition of currently installed markers.
- Any recommendations regarding marker repair or improvement.
- Any recommendations regarding the Road Marker Program in general.

8. Minnehaha Marker – Patrick Pfundstein

Patrick P. sent a progress report (see Appendix D). Progress has been made by the Minneapolis, Park Board contact but work needs to be done on the layout. **Kate C. will work with Patrick P. on layout changes.** The future location of the marker has been identified.

9. Video Library – Dave Wilhelm

David W. reported there has not been much activity with the video library.

10. Field trips – Dave Wilhelm

Stephen W. and Roger B. are planning a field trip to the Floyd County Fossil and Prairie Park near Rockford, IA on Sat. Sept 7th (with Sat. Sept 14th as an alternative date if weather is bad). The park is known for its abundant Devonian age fossils.

David W. will talk to Greg Brick about a potential Highland Park field trip to look at glacial outwash deposits.

David W. indicated Randy Strobel was thinking of a New Mexico field trip in June of 2025.

Kate C. suggested a potential trip to visit the Kasota Limestone quarry in Mankota, MN. Kate also suggested a walking tour of the Capital Rock Garden in St. Paul. Kate needs help identifying the different rocks in the garden.

If anyone has other suggestions, please forward to David W. and Joe Newberg.

11. Creating video walking tours for the GSM YouTube channel – Kate Clover (See previous minutes.)

Kate C. suggested a walking tour of Downtown St. Paul building or possibly the Capital Rock Garden. The focus would be 5 – 10 minutes in duration. **Kate C. and Patrick P. will look into doing a video tour of the Capital Rock Garden.**

12. GSM T-shirts & caps – Joe Newberg (postponed until Fall Banquet)

Joe Newberg is still looking to sell GSM T-shirts, vests and caps at the Fall Banquet. **Joe will send an email to the membership prior to the Fall banquet.**

13. Recent Donations – David Wilhelm

Dr. Sally Sloan has donated 8 boxes (30 books/box) for a total of 240 copies of Dr. Robert Sloan's "Minnesota Fossils and Fossiliferous Rocks". Deborah N. picked up the boxes from Sally. They now reside in the GSM storage unit. **Stephen W. will draft a thank you letter for the donation. Deborah N. and David W. will review the draft before it is sent.** Steve E. recommended we place a sticker on the front cover of the books stating that one must get landowner's permission to collect fossils at any of the localities mentioned in the book. This includes road cuts. **Steve E. will write up the text for the stickers and run it by Tony Runkle at the MN Geological Survey.** Patrick P. can print the stickers when text is available. It was suggested the books be made available to GSM members and possible MN Science teachers.

Dave K. made the motion that the books be made available to GSM members at the Fall Banquet for a \$10 donation if the stickers are available by then. Roger seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

David W. has picked up a donation of geology stuff from the Steffner residence. Most of the donation is in the GSM storage unit with the exception of 2 items which David W. has at his house. What to do with this donation will be decided at a future meeting.

14. GSM Website – Alan Smith

Alan S. sent an email request for Board members to test the new developmental GSM website. **Board members are to provide their feedback to Alan by Aug 26th.** Final approval to go live with the new website will be decided at some time in the future.

15. Aiming for a younger and more diverse membership – Mary Helen Inskeep

Mary Helen has set up a “Meet Up” group. However, it was not visible on the “Meet Up” site yet. It should be live in about 24 hrs. The current cost is within the less than \$10/month limit set by the Board at our last meeting. Mary Helen is setting up the first event on the site. **Dick B. has agreed to be a potential organizer for the site.** Mary Helen needs to be notified of future information changes like lectures in order to keep the site up to date. **Once the system is live Mary Helen is looking for feedback by 8/29th.**

16. Any other items?

No new items.

17. Date & location of next Board meeting (Nov 14 is second Thursday)

Next Board meeting will be 6:30p Thursday Nov 14th at U Gardens.

Deborah N. moved the meeting be adjourned. Pete H. seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25p.

Appendix A:

Treasurer's Report
GSM Board Meeting
Aug 8, 2024

1. Checkbook balanced fir the months of May, Jun and Jul 2024.
2. Income, deposits for the three months = \$20.
3. Expenses for the three months:
 - a. Banquet facility rent = \$150.00
 - b. Extra Space Storage rent = \$443.40 (157.30/mo. Starting Jul.)
 - i. Billed directly to Huntington back card.
 - c. Newsletter postage/printing = \$135.47.
 - d. Total expenses for the three months = \$728.87.
4. Checking account balance as of Jul 31, 2024 = 9,835.91.
5. 5 Investment account balance (RBCWM as of Jul 31, 2024 = \$11,411.86.
 - a. I have made two attempts to contact Tiffany regarding moving our RBC funds, Tiffany has not responded to my inquiries.
6. Financial spreadsheets, and this report, will be uploaded to the GSM website at the conclusion of the Board meeting.

Submitted by Dave Kelso
GSM Treasurer

Appendix B

GSM Board Terms

<u>Member</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Eligible through end of</u>	
Dave Wilhelm	2024	2027	
Lowell Hill	2024	2027	
Dick Bottenberg	2023	2026	
Kate Clover	2023	2026	
Steve Willging	2023	2026	
Dave Kelso	2022	2025	* Replaced Nancy Jannik
Roger Benepe	2022	2025	
Deborah Naffziger	2022	2025	
Pete Hesse	2021	2024	
Nancy Jannik	2021	2024*	* Resigned Sept, 2022.
Patrick Pfundstein	2020	2023	
John Westgaard	2020	2023	

Appendix C:

1060 Grand Avenue
205
Saint Paul, MN 55105
18 July 2024

Geological Society of Minnesota
PO Box 141065
Minneapolis, MN 55414

To the Board of Directors:

Thank you for the privilege of serving on the Board of Directors and as the Chairperson of the Geological Marker Committee. It has been a challenge and an opportunity to get to know Minnesota and its geological features, and to work on making this knowledge available to Minnesotans.

I am no longer able to continue as the Chairperson because of my health. I am happy to share what the Committee has learned and how we organized the marker web site. I have put the GPS Coordinates, driving directions, and maps in a filing box to hold this knowledge.

The stone monuments are distinctive and attract the public's attention. Ideally, GSM would continue to install new monuments and replace old and damaged monuments. However, that is expensive and GSM should consider other alternatives.

I plan to continue to be a supportive GSM member and would be willing to consult with the Marker Committee on different ways to build and install markers,

I believe in the value of GSM's work in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Cornwall Galkiewicz

Appendix D:

From: patrickpfundstein@mac.com

To: Dave Wilhelm

Cc: Lowell Hill, Roger C Benep, Kate Clover, Peter Hesse, Deborah Naffziger

Thu, Aug 8 at 1:49 PM

Minnehaha Report

The Park Board's workers have been on strike (recently settled), which has been an understandable delay. Kate did get a new version of the panel out of MaryLynn who was ready to print a final big version for last proofing, but I asked her to hold off since there are a number of issues with the draft (missing stream names, an image set reversal, missing labels, and a missing key and arrows).

The draft is attached in smaller format so I don't bomb you all with a 10mb file.

I suspect we have another go-around or two of edit requests before we are ready to print a final proof (and get a production bid).

Patrick



Minnehaha Regional Park

Waterfall Geology

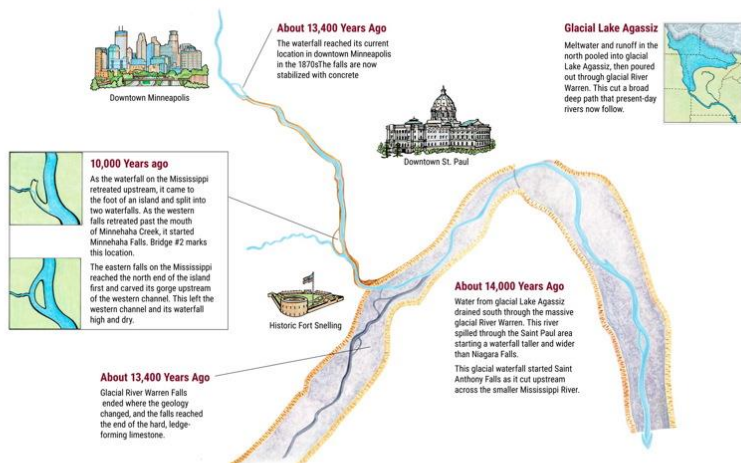
Overview

Nearby, Minnehaha Falls plunges 53 feet into a gorge on the creek's final mile-long journey to the Mississippi River. The waterfall appears permanent, but it is part of an ever-changing landscape.

Waterfalls form where a stream tumbles over a hard rock ledge and erodes softer underlying rock. This erosion causes the unsupported ledge to collapse and the falls to move upstream.

Waterfalls can end as well. This happens if the water supply gets cut off, or if the geology changes, and there is no more hard rock ledge for the water to cascade over.

All of these stages of a waterfall's existence have happened in the Twin Cities area, and most you can see here in Minnehaha Park.



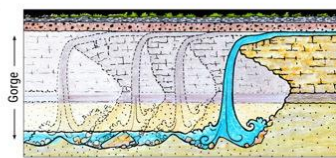
Find it in Minnehaha Park



Why do waterfalls move?

Waterfalls move upstream where a stream flows over a hard rock ledge and erodes the softer rock below. The process undercuts the ledge and leaves it unsupported—just waiting to collapse and to create a new ledge. As this process repeats, waterfalls move upstream and carve a steep-sided gorge.

Because Minnehaha Falls is in its natural state, not stabilized with concrete, its rock ledge will eventually collapse again. In total, Minnehaha Falls has retreated upstream about 700 feet from where it started near Bridge #2.



Retreating Waterfall

Rock layers in the Park

- Glacial Sediments**
Clay, silt, sand, and gravel cover the limestone
- Platteville Formation**
Hard limestone forms the ledge and is yellow-gray
- Glenwood Formation**
Shale is flakey and gray-green
- Saint Peter Sandstone**
The sandstone is loosely cemented, white to light gray or iron-stained and orange

Rock Layers Erode — Some More Easily Than Others

Minnehaha Falls has retreated 500 feet upstream. Because it has not been artificially stabilized to prevent erosion, its rock ledge will eventually collapse again.

This sign made possible through the generous support of the Geological Society of Minnesota