

## **Raccoon Creek Partnership Board of Directors Meeting**

November, 19<sup>th</sup> 2007

Waterloo Aquatic Education Center

5:30 – 7:30 PM

**In attendance:** Heike Perko, Jen Bowman, Mike Schooley, Dan Imhoff, Jeff Calhoun, Wendy Shields, Scott Schell, Amy Mackey, & Ben McCament

### **Introductions of first elected RCP board and interests in serving the watershed organization:**

- Heike – lives in watershed, developed interest as a graduate student at Ohio University working with Raccoon Creek, interested in developing aquatic education center at Waterloo
- Mike – landowner in watershed, would like bring more manpower to the watershed efforts and is interested in carbon sequestration
- Dan – interested in streams/rivers in general, serving this organization is attempt to leave the world a little better than we found it, also interested in alternative energy
- Jeff – watershed resident, has been interested in water quality for years with initial experience with Rural Action and Federal Valley watershed group, studying fish and wildlife management at Rio Grande currently
- Wendy – initial interest in streams started at Sunday Creek (with Jen and Ben), served as Raccoon Creek outreach coordinator for year at Vinton SWCD, interested in the technical aspect and outreach component of watershed work
- Scott – general interest in rivers/streams, retired Ohio River fish biologist for ODNR Division of Wildlife, has seen Clean Water Act make dramatic improvements in water quality and has a positive attitude toward stream recovery
- Jen – interest in AMD research, involving students in field research, and education and outreach activities.

### **Recap 2007 Accomplishments (interim board)**

- Incorporated through the State of Ohio
- Applied for and received tax-exempt (public charity) status from IRS
- Developed a memorandum of understanding to function as an umbrella organization for the Raccoon Creek Water Trail Association
- Planned and held the first annual meeting for the RCP
- Recruited 61 members
- Raised over \$4,500 through donations, memberships, and annual meeting fundraiser

### **Officers for 2007/8 Board of Directors**

- Chairperson – Jen Bowman
- Vice-chairperson – Scott Schell

- Treasurer – Wendy Shields
- Secretary – Heike Perko

Wendy, as Treasurer, will contact Mary Ann Borch (interim board treasurer) and receive all documentation and records for the RCP. The Treasurer also chairs the Finance Committee, which will also include Scott Schell, Heike Perko, and Mike Schooley.

Ben McCament, Watershed Coordinator, was chosen to continue to facilitate the Technical Advisory Committee (i.e. Raccoon Creek Forum) and serve as the liason between the board and this committee.

Wendy is also interested in working on and possibly chairing the membership and development committee, which is closely related to the Finance committee activities.

The interim board created a special committee to handle issues related to developing the Waterloo Aquatic Education Center which Heike Perko will continue to chair. An Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF) grant through OEPA is currently being developed for January of 2008.

### **Terms of Board of Directors**

The RCP bylaws states that the first elected board will have staggered terms to avoid complete turnover of the board each year. Four board members will have two year terms and three will have a one year term. The following was decided for terms:

- 2 year term: Heike Perko, Scott Schell, Jeff Calhoun, and Jen Bowman
- 1 year term: Dan Imhoff, Wendy Shields, and Mike Schooley

### **Waterloo & Insurance Discussion**

Dan Imhoff has been in contact with two different insurers about the Waterloo building (as stated in the lease with ODNR) and overall insurance for the organization. The RCP needs to fill out a bunch of forms for different insurance policies, get quotes for each coverage, then decide on what coverage to purchase. Dan asked for help to fill out the forms - there will be a *meeting on Tuesday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Jen Bowman's house to fill out insurance forms.* Should give executive summary of meetings and minutes to ODNR-DOW so they are informed of what we are doing.

Once insurance is decided, we can go ahead and sign the lease with ODNR Division of Wildlife for the Waterloo building.

Also need the assistance of a lawyer for the organization, Scott Schell mentioned John Sowalsh (sp) who he knows. Scott will contact him and see if he would be willing to assist us with insurance related questions and legal advice in general?

## **2008 RCP Board Priority Planning**

- Purchase insurance and sign ODNR lease for Waterloo building
- Apply for OEEF grant for Waterloo Aquatic Education Center
- Receive and spend \$10,000 grant from ODNR Division of Wildlife for educational equipment at Waterloo
- Hold one RCP board float outing on Raccoon Creek
- Hold one teacher training and conduct several school group programs at Waterloo
- Develop a fundraising plan for the organization
- Sponsor or set up a student research project in the watershed
- Plan for sustaining staff/personnel to work on Raccoon Creek
- Conduct one board tour of water quality projects already completed
- Functional website that allows for posting of announcements, events, membership recruiting, etc...

## **Watershed Coordinator 2008 Workplan**

Ben handed out the 2007 workplan for the ODNR Division of Soil and Water Conservation watershed coordinator grant for Raccoon Creek. A workplan for 2008 is due by the end of November and needs input on what areas the board would like the watershed coordinator to contribute or assist with. Please email your comments by the 27<sup>th</sup> to Ben and will try to incorporate into the workplan. Will also use the 2008 priorities listed above for the workplan. Workplan will also contain updating watershed management plans (2) and implementing EPA section 319 Pierce Run AMD remediation grant that started in October of 2007.

**Next Meeting – Monday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 PM at the Nelsonville Library**

- Jen will schedule and confirm