

**Raccoon Creek Partnership
Board of Directors Meeting
May 27th, 2009**

C.H. McKenzie Agricultural Building, Gallipolis

Attendance: Ben McCament, Amy Mackey, Molly Gurien, Rocky McNickle, Brenda McNickle, Jeff Calhoun, Scott Schell, Mary Ann Borch, Tim Ferrell, Jackie Haymal, Shali Karr

Prior Meeting Minutes: April 29th meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report (Jeff Calhoun):

- Total RCP funds = \$10,312.47 (\$3,839.35 RCP General Funds, \$5,085.31 DOW Grant, \$1,387.81 Clyde Gosnell Donation)
- Jeff will be accepting a new position with ODNR-DMRM beginning June 22nd, there will be an RCP board vacancy (more info below) and we will need to choose a new treasurer.
 - Amy Mackey was selected to take over the treasurer duties after Jeff's departure.

Waterloo Update (Amy Mackey):

- Alexander pond study and EnviroScape May 14th went well, approximately 120 4th graders. Thank you Rina, Tim, Loraine and Erin!
- Thanks to the Master Gardeners who landscaped in front of the center using donated native plants.
- Zanesville Girls Science Camp June 1-4 at Waterloo, they need volunteers on the 1st and 2nd. If anyone can help please contact Heike!
- Summer Camps are being finalized, brochure will be out soon, NEED VOLUNTEERS! July 6 – 10, August 11 – 13.
- Still have \$5,085.31 in DOW grant that we should spend soon. Suggested purchases:
 - Digital microscope and projector
 - Backpack electro-fishing equipment
 - EnviroScape
 - We need to compile a list of all equipment that has been purchased so far
- Next Education Committee meeting is Saturday June 13th at 4:00 p.m. followed by an owl walk and camp fire at 7:00 p.m. POTLUCK! Bring a dish to share.

Water Quality Specialist Update (Amy Mackey):

- Sampling
 - Jason McClarren has returned at the lab, sampling has resumed.
 - Completed: Lake Milton Projects, Middleton Run (w/ Mary Ann), Pierce Run, Lake Latrobe.
 - Upcoming: Headwaters LTM, EB Phase I projects, Elk Fork
- West Branch – Harble Griffith Road Project
 - Submitted OEPA 319 grant, to reclaim 3 of the pits in Hocking County (WB headwaters). Pits are really high in aluminum and acidity.
 - Construction in 2011
- Selected Qian Zhang for ODNR Intern, should be able to start mid – late June
- Started putting together proposal to Mitch for 2009.
 - Put together project maintenance plan for all completed projects (flushing systems, exercising valves, etc). Will be part of my new work plan.
- Sent YSI (water quality meter) in for repair, cost will be covered by ODNR DMRM

AmeriCorps Update (Amy Mackey):

- Accepting applications online (have 10 applications so far)
- Have some really good applicants, Amy, Ben, Heike, and Molly will meet this week to discuss hiring options.
- Rural Action sent us a list of questions that we can and can't ask at an interview.
- Next meeting July 2nd 10:00 a.m., Monday Creek Office
- Deadline for Applications July 15th
- Starting Date August 10th

Water Trails Update (Molly Gurien):

- May 2nd Public Canoe Float past Pierce Run went well, had about 20 boats on the water and several new memberships. Thanks to everyone who attended!
- May 9th community yard sale at ReUse industries float was cancelled due to high water, but RCP / RCWTA set up booth and sold \$30 in kayak raffle tickets, \$20 in donations, and \$10 membership
- May 15th – 17th Nelsonville Music Festival sold over \$400 in raffle tickets!
- Approximately \$108 additional raffle ticket money has been raised.
- Discussed and approved use of RCP canoes by other groups (watershed groups, boy scout groups)
 - Must be an RCP or RCWT member present (or someone from the group requesting the canoes may become a member)
 - Borrowing group is responsible for canoe transportation
 - Working on creating a borrower's agreement to resolve any safety / liability issues
- Molly is in the process of sending out membership renewal forms.
- RCWTA Annual Meeting will be July 11th at the Lake Hope Shelter House. Potluck. Canoes will be available.
- Pawpaw festival September 19th and 20th. RCP / RCWTA will have a booth, will need volunteers.
- Next RCWTA meeting is June 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the Voinovich School.

RC Coordinator / Technical Committee Update (Ben McCament):

- Ben will start his new job with ODNR-DMRM on June 22nd, his last day as Raccoon Creek Coordinator will be June 19th. We will miss you Ben! Thanks for all of your hard work!
 - Remaining Coordinator duties (grant expires December 2009) will be split between Jennifer Bowman, Environmental Projects Manager at the Voinovich School, and Amy Mackey, Raccoon Creek Water Quality Specialist with Ohio Valley RC&D.
 - ODNR-DMRM and ODNR-DSWC are committed to continuing the coordinator position with Raccoon Creek. Once funding is established (hopefully by the fall of 2009) the coordinator position can be officially posted and a new full-time Raccoon Creek Watershed Coordinator hired.
- Harble Griffith Road Project 319 grant was submitted through the Voinovich School. 29 acre reclamation site-Gob Piles 2.5 million gallons of water run through these piles, will be reclaimed and drained into limestone ponds, cost: 1.1 million dollars (\$400,000 EPA 319 grant, the remaining cost will be covered by ODNR-DMRM) due to extensive earth-moving requirements. Grant also pays for 15% of coordinators position for 3 years as a project manager.
- Ben will be attending River Rally in Baltimore May 29th – June 1st.
- Ben will continue to be involved in the Raccoon Creek Forum (Technical Advisory Committee)

New Board Member Nomination (all):

- When Jeff Calhoun begins his new position (June 22nd) there will be a vacancy on the RCP board of directors. Board vacancy procedures are addressed in the RCP bylaws as follows:
 - *“When a vacancy on the Board exists, nominations for new members may be received by the Secretary or Chairperson from present Board members two weeks in advance of a Board meeting. These nominations shall be sent out to Board members with the regular Board meeting announcement, to be voted upon at the next Board meeting. A Board vacancy will be filled through nomination from the Board only to the end of the vacant Board members term when a new election will occur.”*
- Please send your nominations to Heike Perko at heikeperko@ohiohills.com
- A vacancy announcement will be sent to the RCP membership.

Poker Run 2009:

- Route will be altered from 2008 to include a stop at Pierce Run construction site.
 - Starting location 11:00 a.m. Lake Hope Iron Furnace
 - Pierce Run Construction Site
 - McCoys General Store in Vinton
 - R.C. Byrd Lock and Dam
 - End at Raccoon Creek County Park
- OU student developed a poster / flyer for the event. Looks GREAT!
- Discussed the possibility of having the poker run earlier?? Maybe in August??

New Business / Announcements

- Amy mentioned possible membership to the Hocking River Commission. Group decided that it doesn't seem necessary but that we should look for ways to partner with them.
- RCP Board honored Ben McCament and Jeff Calhoun for their years of service to the watershed. We wish you both the best of luck in your new positions with ODNR-DMRM and hope to continue working with you!

****Action Items****

Ben

- ✓ Finish 2009 WQS proposal
- ✓ Good luck with ODNR DMRM!

Rocky

- ✓ Send minutes and board vacancy announcement to the membership.

Scott

- ✓ Thank you for your presentation of **Asian Carp in the Mississippi River Basin!**

Jeff

- ✓ Transfer treasurer info to Amy Mackey
- ✓ Good luck in Cambridge!

Heike

- ✓ Compile a list of equipment purchased for Waterloo and a list of things still needing to purchase.

Molly

- ✓ RCWTA membership renewals

Mike

- ✓ ?

Amy

- ✓ RCP and RCWTA events added to the website
- ✓ Headwaters LTM, EB Phase I projects, Elk Fork sampling
- ✓ Finish 2009 WQS proposal

ALL!

- ✓ Need volunteers for Waterloo Activities (camps June 1-2, July 6-10, August 11-13).
- ✓ Decide on AmeriCorps hiring procedure.
- ✓ Send nominations for RCP board vacancy to heikeperko@ohiohills.com
- ✓ Finalize poker run date

Next Meeting June 24th, 2009 6:30 at Waterloo Aquatic Education Center.