

**Raccoon Creek Partnership  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Waterloo Community Center, New Marshfield, OH

**Public Meeting** – DOW Suzie Prange, Dan Perko, Chris Dodge presented Black Bears in your Backyard

**Attendance for board meeting (see attached public meeting attendance):** Heike Perko, Rocky McNickle, Kara Walton, Tim Ferrell, Amy Mackey, Amber Brookins, Rob Wofter, John Brown, Sarah Landers, Brian Blair (and Alice), Natalie Kruse, Nigel Daniels

**Prior Meeting Minutes:** August meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board. Action items were addressed.

**Treasurer's Report (Amber Brookins):**

- Total RCP funds = \$7123.36 (\$4236.69 RCP General Funds, \$2886.67 DOW Grant)
- RCWTA funds = \$1110.67
- Ordered Propane - \$427 and RCWTA registered canoe trailer.
- Upcoming purchases – microscope for MAIS ID (Amy), more small children's PFDs (AmeriCorps)
- Benefit show at Jackie O's Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> was a big success, thanks so much to all who helped and attended!! Made \$424.58. Would like to do again. Amber talked to Casa, they would be willing to hold a benefit if we find bands.
- Fundraising meeting coming up in October, Amber will send out email about date.

**Coordinator Update (Amy Mackey):**

- Pierce Run moving along, should be completed this fall. Grant expires Dec 31, needs to include 3 months post-construction sampling, and post-con tour.
- East Branch Phase II moving along well, all 3 sites will be done this fall.
- National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs Conference in Scranton PA – Amy and Natalie presented and people were enthusiastic about our partnership and reclamation/remediation actions.
- OWLS Conference – good networking for all who attended.
- Will be conducting 2 biological sampling field trips for Vinton County High School students Oct 19, 21

**Water Quality Specialist Update (Brian Blair):**

- Began West Branch Harble Griffith 319 pre-construction sampling.
- Nearly complete with 2010 fish sampling, planning Little Raccoon Creek boat sampling with EPA next week. Second pass on Hewett fork still showing decline in total fish and species numbers. Will be meeting to discuss possible problems and solutions later in October.
- Will be planning the sampling for the remainder of 2010, should finish on schedule.

**Waterloo Update (Heike Perko):**

- Fall camps coming up
  - Oct 9 – composting NEED HELP if anyone is available.
  - Oct 23 – Coyote Trails with Wes Supper. Primitive Survival Skills. Janene will be helping with camp as part of her MSES leadership project.

- Camps are 10:00-1:00 at Waterloo, all ages welcome, bring lunch
- Will be applying for Athens Foundation Grant and OEEF grant to help fund camps. OEEF application will be posted in late October.
- Education Committee meeting coming soon, no date yet.
- Will winterize the center following the December meeting and will re-open for spring camps in April
- Trees planted at summer camp have survived, some may need transplanted.
- Heike will look into doing an archery program this fall, maybe at annual dinner??
- Contact Heike if you are interested in helping with anything at Waterloo!!!

#### **Water Trails Update (All):**

- Molly was not able to make it, will give full update at annual dinner
- Public float scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup>, more details to be announced closer to the event.
- Fred Bush won the kayak raffle (RCWTA member and supporter)

#### **AmeriCorps Update (Kara Walton and Sarah Landers):**

- Both attended OWLs conference and networked with other watershed groups
- Have been getting sponsors for and helping to organize the poker run.
- Water Quality training with Jen Bowman and Natalie Kruse
- Project WILD / WILD Aquatic training last week, good resources for camps and outreach
- Energy Days with other AmeriCorps members for Athens 3-6 grade classes, 16 total classes. Will discuss AMD, coal mining (cookie mining activity), and hydropower
- In contact with some classes at Alexander. High school students interested in water quality, pond study.
- Attended Paw Paw festival and talked to a lot of folks about the watershed, found a few interested volunteers.
- Will be leading a program for homeschool students at Waterloo. Heike will get the number to Kara.
- Advertising and preparing for annual dinner
- Would like to do a trash clean-up, John suggested Creek Road, lots of trash dumped. Sarah and Kara will try to arrange a clean-up.

#### **Poker Run Review (All):**

- So far made about \$374.89 (does not include remaining sponsors – Holzer and AEP, and does not account for shirt ordering). Final number will come out soon.
- Agreed that Poker Runs are too much work for too little profit, need to try something new. Will not do Poker Run next year. Maybe poker night at the community center???
- AmeriCorps will send out thank you letters to all riders, sponsors, and stops.

#### **New MPA student Introduction (Rob Wofter):**

- Rob will be working with RCP this year to develop a “marketing plan” for Raccoon Creek to promote recreational use of the watershed.
- Rob distributed SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat) Analysis for board members to fill out and return to him.
- Amy will send Rob updated sponsorship letter
- Lots of good suggestions about Recreational opportunities and ways to get more folks involved with the watershed:
  - John suggested county fair booths

- Kara suggested camp in Gallia County – maybe at RC county park
- Rocky suggested Gallia SWCD banquet
- Library programs – Sarah and Kara will organize
- Adopt a highway section?
- Get folks to adopt a section of creek to clean and maintain
- Bulletin board? How much do they cost? Sarah and Kara will investigate
- Link to and from other websites (are doing this with other watershed groups)
- Invite politicians to annual dinner!
  - Send them our DVD
  - Rocky met Zack Space and Fred Dill at Paw Paw and they were interested in supporting RCP
- Rob asked who our target audience is? Probably landowners, but really everyone!
- Sarah suggested we need a better way to paint the picture of restoration
- Rob will present to the group at the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Rocky suggested having the meeting at Vinton.

### **Annual Dinner Planning (All):**

- Need to add the 3:00 canoeing and activities to flyer
- Dinner starting at 5:00
- Pat has confirmed for 5:30 “Haunted Hocking”
- Updates to follow:
  - Amber – fundraising and treas rep’t
  - Brian and Amy – water quality and sampling
  - Heike – waterloo
  - Molly – RCWTA
- Rocky will MC
- Amy / Natalie will get projector and laptop from OU
- Everyone please where RCP shirt!
- Amy will try to put together pictures on ppt to run while folks are eating.
- Will have 50/50 and raffle the fishing trip.
- Silent auction items: Chris Schmeil items, Heike Trail ride, Natalie cake and cake certificate, computer bag, propane fireplace, quilts, rina stained class piece, kara might do yoga certificate, Nathan walking stick
- Need people there at 3:00 for canoeing, etc
- Sarah and Kara will call all members to invite them personally.
- Natalie in charge of elections
- Food:
  - Amber – German potato salad
  - Natalie – RCP cake
  - Tim and Amy – smoked chicken
  - Kara – salad
  - Rocky – potato salad
  - Heike – pork
  - ??Crumbs buns / deserts – maybe donate for GOBA help? – Amy will ask Jen
  - Sarah – meat loaf
  - Brian – devilled eggs
  - Rob – chips and salsa

### **New Business / Announcements / Upcoming Events**

- Amber will make Rob, Kara, and Sarah admin for facebook page
- Rocky has new email [jmm1027@frontier.com](mailto:jmm1027@frontier.com) Rocky avail Tues and Wed for volunteering
- ECRR training this spring March 21-23 Roanoke VA, more info later! Need to send RC reps to this one, missed the fall one.
- Next meeting, annual dinner October 17<sup>th</sup>, then November 17<sup>th</sup>.

***\*Action Items Underlined!\****