

Raccoon Creek Partnership
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 24, 2013, 6:30 p.m.
Waterloo Center, Waterloo Township, Athens County

Attendance: Rob Wiley, Amber Brookins, Amy Mackey, Molly Gurien, Sarah Landers, Bob Eichenberg, Heike Perko, Natalie Kruse. Guests: Dick Hogan, Roger Wilkens, and Maddie Brookins.

Previous Meeting's Minutes: Minutes from the March meeting were approved. **Natalie and Amy will check to see if the December minutes were ever approved.** One correction to the March minutes: RCWTA raised \$2,368.71 with the Kickstarter Program, rather than the \$10,000 that was originally printed.

Action Items and questions are Highlighted.

Treasurer's Report (Amber):

- **General fund \$6,632.17; ODNR grant fund \$1,226.62; Waterloo fund \$1,615.12.**

- **Coordinator's Report (Amy)**

- We have 17 applicants for the ODNR internships. We will conduct at least 3 interviews. We don't officially have the funding approved and we will withhold hiring until the funding is confirmed.
- Americorps positions are open on the website. June 7th in the applicant deadline.
- Our 2 Hocking College interns will also finish their terms at the end of the school year.
- The Ohio Watershed Leaders (OWL) Conference will be held September 5th and 6th at Lake Hope.
- Presentations about fish electroshocking were given for Vinton and Waverly High Schools and at the Ohio Energy Project.
- We submitted a \$100,000 Office of Surface Mining grant for a reclamation project near Wellston on Middleton Run that covers 40 acres. It will occur in 2013 and 2014.
- On May 10th from 2-4:30 pm there will be a post-construction tour at the Harble-Griffith Project.
- There will be a Captina Creek Watershed Rally in St. Clairsville on April 29th.
- 283 hardwood trees got planted at the Appalachian Ohio Alliance volunteer day.
- Sarah's 2-yr. contract renewal was sent to the state for approval. Her existing contract runs through June 30, 2013.
- The Board is welcome to participate with the intern interview process. Staff believes this can help bring a broader perspective to our hiring.

Water Quality Specialist Update (Sarah):

- Water quality monitoring is on schedule.
- Preconstruction monitoring is being conducted in the Little Raccoon Creek Watershed and post construction monitoring is being conducted in the Raccoon Creek Headwaters

for the Orland Gob Pile and Harble Griffith Reclamation Projects, which were completed last summer.

- Reconnaissance is scheduled for along Ilesboro Rd. on May 9th. This is the next ridge-top over from the Harble Griffith Reclamation Project. This is the site of a potential future reclamation project.
- Finishing the newsletter. It needs a tagline.
- May 1st is the Technical Advisory Committee at 9am in the conference room of Bldg. 22 at The Ridges.
- There was a fire at Lake Hope Park that consumed 50 acres.
- The Vinton SWCD annual dinner is 9/26/2013. We will need to sell Water Trail maps at this event.
- Helped separate and bag 1100 trees for spring planting.
- The Middleton Run pre-bid meeting will be held May 21st.

Americorps Update (Rebekah):

- The bird hike on 4/20 drew 20 participants.
- There was a cleanup on 4/21 and 17 people participated. Rural Action's Zero Waste Initiative will pick up the recyclables.
- Darcy and Rebekah are collecting clear glass bottles for camp.
- Need a tent for events starting with the River Race on the lower Muskingum. The Board approved up to \$150 per tent and \$300 total.
- Heike ascertained that we have drivers and vans for the summer camps.

RCWTA (Molly):

- The Spring Float is May 18th. The pre-float will be May 11th.
- The River Sweep is June 15th. The put-in is CR 219 and covers about the last 5 miles of Raccoon to its mouth. We will not be doing a second cleanup on land.
- The new trailer is at Waterloo. It has a greater capacity with a lower profile. Glenn will build boxes for the paddles and PFD's. We need new paddles, particularly shorter and longer varieties.
- Ordered 4,000 maps (400 unfolded). We may not have them by the Float. Thanks to Bernhard Debatin's student, Haley, for doing the final edit. We should donate a framed map to Lake Hope Lodge.
- The Girl Scouts are looking for some paddling instruction and Molly is offering to do this in exchange for a donation to RCWTA.
- We need to make a contact for the Bob Evans Festival.
- Next RCWTA meeting is May 8th.

New Business and Announcements:

- A work day is scheduled for May 29th from noon-5pm before the next RCP meeting. A potluck is planned for 5-6:30.
 - Waterloo needs mats. Amy will get prices at Menhard's. Dan will haul some mulch. Bob will bring bolt cutters. We need to move out some of the chemicals.

Other priorities are the floors, garden, a deep clean, and more mouse traps. Bob will inspect/repair plumbing in the men's room.

- Rob reported on his Appalachian Ohio Alliance Board membership. He will chair the Heritage Committee and will help the group to characterize the properties that they own. Natalie suggested using student help as much as possible since it is good experience. There are a lot of Hocking College students that need an internship.
- We need to come up with a longer term lease proposal that is based on a building plan. Heike and Bob can work on this once Heike is finished with school for the year.
- Roger Wilkens is working with The Center for Creation of Cooperation on renewable energy cooperatives. He provided a handout on micro-hydro systems.

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 29, 2013, 6:30pm, at Waterloo. The work day begins at noon and will be followed by a potluck.