

RCP Board Meeting

July 28th, 2010

Waterloo Aquatic Education Center

6:30 pm

In Attendance: Heike Perko, Amy Mackey, Amber Brookins, Brian Blair, Mike Schooley, Rina Caldwell, Molly Gurien, Steve Ferrante, Rocky McNickle, Natalie Kruse (taking notes, but not well).

1. Approval of last month's minutes.
 - a. Amy Mackey is listed as in attendance but was not.
 - b. Minutes approved with this change.
2. Treasurer Report
 - a. RCP General: 4185.25
 - b. Camp Funds: 795.04
 - i. Camp total in: 1970.19 including registration, 250 from EPA, bake sale, and donations.
 - ii. Total cost: 1175.15
 - c. DOW Grant: 3244.24
 - d. RCWTA: 1120.67
 - e. RCWTA would like a new check book with a correct address on it. It will cost \$15 and will say RCP not RCWTA. Molly will check with RCWTA about whether it's worth it or if they have enough checks for a while. Discussion about where the money should come from, either WTA or from RCP (to be taken from percentage that WTA pays to RCP).
Further discussion about whether to get more books and where the money should come from are required.
 - f. DOW Grant needs to be spent soon, usually must be spent within 2 years, it's been 3-4 years. What big items do we need? **Rina will go shopping for a new microscope, kids boots, a bag for the enviroscape, childrens PFD's and possibly more games.**
3. Goals of all attendees as part of RCP
 - a. Rocky: has lived in the area for his life, swam in Raccoon Creek as a kid and seen changes over the past 20-25 years. He is involved to continue this work and to spread the word about how the creek is being cleaned up.
 - b. Steve: Raccoon Creek is the best watershed in Ohio. There are great people and working for RCP is a good opportunity.
 - c. Molly: Loves Raccoon Creek, one of the nicest streams in the state for paddling. RCWTA representative, but also interested in aquatic resources, teaching and a clean watershed!
 - d. Rina: Started at an aquatic education meeting and likes Amy. Stuck with us because she is excited about environmental education and gaining experience, skills and scientific skills, likes to play and learn.
 - e. Mike: Began with RCP when there was just a WTA, his passion was to get the upper watershed cleaned up. Over the years, he has started feeling far away, but is interested

in Amy's work and remediation. Spoke about resigning in the fall for a local person to come in—most people expressed disagreement with this idea.

- f. Brian: As Water Quality Specialist, he likes learning scientific things, but also sees the importance of engaging the human elements and supporting education of the community about how they treat creeks. Creates a future for the creeks.
 - g. Amber: Became involved through friends and feeling like she wasn't doing anything with her degree. Went to some meetings and likes local solutions to local problems. Interested in the human element and educating the future—this is their watershed.
 - h. Amy: Wildlife management student, started internship with DMRM. Can't do wildlife management without water. Passionate about seeing changes in the creek, like fish returning and looks forward to continued success. Loves water quality and education.
 - i. Heike: Tree hugger. As a Hocking College student, she was astounded by AMD and its impacts. Nature is her therapy and working with environmental education makes a difference even if it's just to a few kids. Magical to see new fish come into Hewett Fork. She is proud of RCP.
 - j. Natalie: Most interested in water quality and water quality improvement. Creating connections between students and Raccoon Creek, getting them out of the classroom and developing their passion. Maintain momentum within the group with continual injections of new blood!
4. Board vacancy
- a. People wish they knew more about why Scott left and seemed surprised about not hearing more details of his ideas about a Volunteer Monitoring Group.
 - b. RCP has a bare bones staff who are overworked, so the RCP board must act more as staff than as a steering board. We must run the organization, not just provide direction.
 - c. Protocol for filling the vacancy:
 - i. Nominations from present board members to the board president 2 weeks before the next meeting.
 - ii. Nominations will be emailed to Heike by August 11 for the new board member.
 - iii. Board members will vote at the August meeting to fill the board vacancy, then will vote to fill the vacant Secretary office.
 - d. Discussion about people we want to remain engaged with RCP and whether to nominate them.
 - e. Discussion about thank you's for departing board members. **Certificate produced by Amy.**
5. Fall Newsletter and Annual Meeting
- a. Annual Meeting date: October 17, 2010, 5pm, potluck at Waterloo. We will eat first and do presentations later.
 - i. Offer an afternoon program, canoeing, fishing, pond study at 3:30 or 4.
 - ii. Keynote speaker: Haunted Hocking?
 - b. Fall Newsletter:
 - i. Submit articles to Brian by August 11th, articles should be short with a picture, he will get it printed by the PawPaw festival

- ii. Message from the chair—Heike
 - iii. Summer camps—Rina
 - iv. Ad for fall camps and activities
 - v. Goba—Amber
 - vi. Water Quality Specialist—Brian
 - vii. ODNR Internship—Steve
 - viii. Water Trails—Molly
 - ix. Something about an animal—Mike
 - x. Add: subcommittee meetings blurb and contacts for specific interests.
 - c. Need to get dates to Country Living magazine 2 months ahead of time, **Amber will send them finalized fall dates and synopsis's ASAP, work with Heike on camp summaries.**
 - d. We need a big visible donation box, **Molly will talk to Charles.**
6. Water Trails Association
- a. Couldn't get Lake Hope picnic shelter for August 7th, so the annual potluck is August 8th, 3pm at Lake Hope. Bring a dish. Reservation of the shelter cost \$48. The canoes will be there. **Amy will send out a note to RCP and Molly will send one to WTA.**
 - b. Almost finished mapping access points and mileage. A couple of marginal sections that may be too long. Molly and Charles are scouting additional access for these sections. They are going to go for state designation with bridges as access points. American Canoe Association is trying to increase access at bridges through legislation. Molly feels very close to designation and is hoping to present to ODNR by the end of the year, then there will be additional work.
 - c. Looking to set dates for a fall float to put in the Newsletter.
7. Water Quality Specialist
- a. MAIS sampling for the past month, 40 sites.
 - b. 3 sites left, finishing up this week hopefully.
 - c. Next week starting Harble Griffith pre-con monitoring.
 - d. Should be able to meet this year's targets for sampling.
 - e. Brian had a baby, Alice, on June 29th.
8. Watershed Coordinator
- a. Introduced Steve Ferrante, ODNR Intern, came to us from 2 summers at Sunday Creek.
 - b. Has done lots of MAIS sampling.
 - c. New Americorps and Steve are going to OWL conference. Rural Action is trying to split costs of registration for Americorps.
 - d. Video is done, but the version on YouTube is not final. **Brian or Amy will try to put it on the website.**
 - e. Pete Thompson has a tire disposal grant. Pass on locations of tire piles to Amy and they will get them collected. He will be removing the ones from Orland Gob pile. They are supposed to only go to sites with more than 100 tires. Members suggested **Amy pass on Pierce Run Vault and Waterloo tire sites.**

- f. Pierce Run restarting on Monday, haven't worked yet this year, but are supposed to complete by September. 319 has no more extensions and finishes December 31, 2010. That includes post-con monitoring.
 - g. EBII is moving along swimmingly. The contractor, Stimmell is very good.
 - h. EBIII pre-bid was last week, looking to Spring construction.
 - i. Harble Griffith, 319 awarded and contract is ready, pre-construction sampling will start next week. Startup meeting 9 am July 29, 2010. **Amy will send details of this meeting to Mike.**
 - j. AEP study on Hewett Fork recovery is on its way. Done sediment, toxicity, MAIS and some chemical, still to do fish, habitat, chemical, rain gauge, storm, etc.
 - k. Jacob Sisler, MSES, moving forward with feasibility study of removal of Vinton low head dam.
9. Fundraising
- a. Good committee meeting
 - b. Action items are still being followed up
 - c. Next meeting August 5, 6pm either at ILGARD or Natalie's house.
 - d. Poker Run September 25
 - i. Keith Palmer is passing out lots of fliers but no one will pre-register
 - ii. Still looking for sponsors
 - iii. Need to redo map and think about a route with more businesses. **Rocky will drive a new route to put into maps. Natalie will help create maps.**
 - iv. Need to advertise to members. **Amy will email the membership and mail postcards to our members.**
 - v. We won't stop at Pierce Run, nothing to see from the road and it's creepy.
 - vi. Sarah (Americorps) has planning experience and will move forward with this event when she starts.
 - vii. No tshirts, will take orders on the day.
 - viii. Poker Run Banner? **Steve will check with Pepsi to see if we can get it for free, otherwise, will Zones donate one?**
 - ix. **Natalie will send list of tasks from Fundraising meeting to Heike.**
10. Waterloo Update
- a. Camp was good.
 - b. 3 groups of volunteers at Waterloo, painting and gardening
 - c. Rotary donated books to library.
 - d. Teenage helper, 13 years old, Laura, very good.
 - e. **Mike will plan a worm composting camp for kids in the fall.**
 - f. **Heike will set up another education committee meeting.**
 - g. **Everyone will look for items to add to the silent auction at the annual meeting.**
 - h. **Heike will plan a work day before the annual meeting.**
11. Americorps
- a. Toilet is sticking in center.

- b.** Paw Paw festival, will fill out registration form and send in before August 1st, \$40 each for RCP and RCWTA, we want booths next to each other.
- c.** This is her last meeting as an americorps.
- d.** Shouldn't do Foothills festival because there is an odd vibe from the organizers of vending.
- e.** Parade of the Hills: doing an activity, don't sell raffle tickets, we're in the kids section. Kara and Sarah will run the activity.

12. New Business

- a.** Water Trails needs to put up fence.
- b.** Rina will finish Americorps workplan next week, send any DETAILED items to her by end of this week.
- c.** Moving the center key.
- d.** Next year, Heike's goal is to apply for small OEEF and Athens foundation grants to pay for Rina to help with camp and for camp supplies. OEEF is due in January.
- e.** We need a strategic plan in place. We will discuss at the August meeting and would like to finish it by the end of the year.

13. Gave Rina going away presents.