

**Raccoon Creek Partnership
Board of Directors Meeting
February 24th, 2010
Voinovich School, Building 22, Rm 214**

Attendance: Audrey Payne, Amy Mackey, Kathy Sanford, Mike Schooley, Scott Schell, Heike Perko, Amber Brookins, Dick Hogan, Molly Gurien

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

Treasurer's Report (Amber Brookins):

- Total RCP funds = \$8928.60 (\$5170.02 RCP General Funds, \$3758.58 DOW Grant)
- RCWTA funds = \$878.92
- \$170 from new/renewing RCP members in February

"Changing the Dream" (Dick Hogan)

- Dick presented "Four Years Go" which highlights the importance of the next 4 years in changing our "Dream", in order to lessen our impact on the rest of the planet.
- Review the handouts, Dick will elaborate further at the next meeting.
- Next "Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream" workshop will be May 1st and 2nd at the Chancey Friends Meeting House

Waterloo Update (Heike Perko):

- February education committee meeting was a success (minutes are posted to the web)
- Spring Camps are planned and we have volunteers.
- Planning summer camps, still need volunteers.
 - May 29th registration deadline, already have 2 registered, limited to 18 per camp.
- Next Ed. Committee meeting April 8th, at Waterloo
- Waterloo work day and possible site tour, April 11th
- Heike will meet with OU MSES student next week regarding a leadership project at the Center.
- Mike Schooley suggested a "sustainability program", including recycling, composting, organic gardening. Dick and possibly Nancy Schell will help to develop.
- Charles is willing to build a bulletin board for the Center, need to decide if we want it on building, or kiosk style, near flag pole. Should be less than \$250
- Rina contacted a girl scout group, they want to design a flag for the center.

Water Trails Update (Molly Gurien):

- Scott checked with Sowash (lawyer) about water trail liability, needs more info, Molly will email Scott the info so Scott can forward to Sowash.
- Last RCWTA meeting was cancelled.
- Have not heard from Doug Leeds regarding Water Trail
- Will be putting out a public notice to watershed residents about the potential water trail.
- Still haven't decided whether to go with state or other water trail designation.
- Will discuss with members about changing the date of the float so that members can attend "Awakening the Dreamer..." workshop on May 1st.

Water Quality Specialist Update (Amy Mackey):

- Hiring new Water Quality Specialist
 - Received 10 applicants
 - Interviewing 5 this week
 - Hope to have new WQS by late March

Coordinator Update – (Amy Mackey):

- 2010 monitoring plans complete
- EB and WB long term monitoring complete, monitoring will increase when new WQS is hired.
- East Branch Phase II pre-construction meeting was held 2/5/10. Project will be completed by Stimmels. They are ready to begin, and will as soon as the weather permits. Took the pre-construction photos on 2/23/10.
- RCP may have up to 4 OU MSES leadership students for the coming year, 3 working on water quality, one on education.
- Amber and Amy presented to Hocking College Wildlife Society, group was very interested in RCP and is willing to help at the spring family event at Waterloo.
- Biological sampling meeting was held with ODNR folks, 16 sites will be sampled for fish this year (EPA and ODNR-DMRM will both assist).
- ODNR-DMRM Watershed interns will again be available in 2010.
- Raccoon Creek could possibly get 2 AmeriCorps members for 2010-2011, BUT...we NEED to put together a work plan very soon, highlighting what the AmeriCorps will do – Rina may be able to help with this.
- Jen and Amy attended the RC 2009 annual review today, went well, the only major things that were not completed that were in the work plan were the Pierce Run and EB II projects.
- Scheduled to instruct Hocking College Watershed Mngmt class in May
- Registered for Watershed Academy
- RC will have a booth / activities at OEPA Earth Day event April 22nd at Hocking Co fairgrounds.
- MPA intern could be available for the RCP this year. Student could create business plan, work on collaboration between RCP and RCWTA.
 - Board suggested using the students to help get corporate sponsors / support.
- RCP ppts were distributed

AmeriCorps Update (Amy Mackey):

- Rina will return in March to begin outreach. One Vinton County school has responded and would like programming at their school.
- Registered for 3 conferences (Wildlife Diversity, Reptile and Amph, Vernal pools)

Walkabout Update (Audrey Payne):

- Audrey is a senior at the Graham School in Columbus and is interning with RCP through March.
- Audrey has assisted with chemical and biological data entry, water sampling, and summer camp related research (The Turtle Lady, turtles of Ohio).
- Will assist Rina with outreach and education in March.

Board Vacancy/Elections (all):

- Mike Schooley was elected the 7th RCP board member
- Schott Schell will be the new RCP secretary, Mike Schooley will fill in when Mike is unavailable (Heike will bring tape recorder to assist with recording of meeting).

2010 Fundraising (All):

- Scott will draft an executive summary of the Fundraising plan.
- We need to THINK BIG! The ultimate goal would be for Raccoon Creek to be sustainable – have the funding for the Watershed Coordinator and WQS in the event that outside grants are no longer available.
- Get corporations involved with our group, possibly get them to come to a function or project site.
 - Scott will attempt to contact Jimmy Stewart
 - Mike will attempt to contact Ted Strickland
 - Amy will contact Anita about getting MPA student to help with corporation presentations.
- RCP approved a fishing trip raffle with Dan Imhoff on Raccoon Creek – Jen will move forward on this.
- GOBA (Great Ohio Bicycle Association) – will be here on June 25th. Heike has contacted the Vinton County high school, we can set up a booth there (bikers will be camping at the high school) to sell water, stickers, raffle tickets, membership, promote RCP. Rina can do a kids activity, could have Nora's video playing on a computer / TV at the booth.
- Amber spoke with Casa and Jackie O's, they are both willing to assist us with a benefit.
 - Casa – breakfast
 - Jackie O's – band, someone needs to contact Art. Need to find a band! Wooley Lemons were suggested.

New Business / Announcements / Upcoming Events

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Action Items

Scott

- ✓ Summary of fundraising plan
- ✓ Contact Jimmy Stewart
- ✓ Contact Sowash (after getting more info from RCWTA)

Amber

- ✓ Contact Casa – breakfast fundraiser

Heike

- ✓ GOBA contacts
- ✓ contact Vinton motorcycle group

Molly

- ✓ Email WT info to Scott for Sowash

Dick

- ✓ look into bringing sustainable living and permaculture concepts to WAEC
- ✓ contact motorcycle groups

Amy

- ✓ Locate RCWTA video
- ✓ (Tim) contact Art at Jackie O's

- ✓ Contact Jackson motorcycle group

Natalie

- ✓ contact some service organizations at OU to see if they can do a fundraiser for us (sororities, fraternities, environmental and wildlife clubs etc.) and ask staff at OU to teach a session this summer at Waterloo.

Jen

- ✓ Dan Imhoff, fishing trip RCP raffle

Mike

- ✓ Research composting workshop
- ✓ Contact Ted Strickland

Rina

- ✓ DHI grant
- ✓ School and library programs
- ✓ Final Fridays and other festival research

ALL!

- ✓ Waterloo work day
- ✓ Fundraising suggestions

Next Meeting March 31st, Waterloo Aquatic Education Center 6:30 p.m.