

**Raccoon Creek Partnership
Board of Directors Meeting
March 25th, 2009
Waterloo Aquatic Education Center**

Attendance: Rocky McNickle, Amy Mackey, Mike Schooley, Heike Perko

Note: Meeting was abbreviated due to low attendance. Full meeting will be held in April.

Prior Meeting Minutes: February 25th meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report:

- Total RCP funds = \$10,261.49

<i>RCP Checking Account</i>	
RCP General	\$39.16
DOW Grant	\$5,085.31
AF Grant	\$0.00
Total	\$5,124.47

<i>RCP Money Max Account</i>	
RCP General	\$3,645.71
Gosnell Donation	\$1,481.31
Total	\$5,127.02

<i>RCP Savings Account</i>	
Total	\$10.00

Waterloo Update (Amy Mackey):

- Liability Waiver
 - Heike revised a liability waiver written by Rina and it is being reviewed by Sowash.
- Spring 2009 Day Camps:
 - Already have 17 kids signed up for each camp!!
 - April 4th – Spring Wildflowers (Debbie, Lorain, Cindy)
 - April 11th – Amphibians (Heike, Amy, Rina, Amber)
 - April 18th – Fishing (Amy, Heike, Amber, Rocky)
 - Agendas will be finalized and posted to the web.
 - All camps will be 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Week-long Summer Camp(s):
 - Set dates
 - July 6th – 10th
 - August 11th – 13th
 - 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 - Don't have to stay at the center; can utilize Lake Hope, Carbondale, etc.
 - Would like to provide breakfast and lunch. Will try to get locally grown food, Food committee will work on this (Rina, Lorain, Heike)
 - Possible topics
 - DOW electro-fishing demo (Mike Greenlee has agreed)
 - Hocking mist-netting (Bob Scott Placier has agreed)
 - Evening camp (stars, coyotes, owls, bats...)
 - Carbondale doser
 - Canoeing
 - Fishing / Pond Study
 - Pollution
 - Water Chemistry (Good stream / bad stream)
 - Buebirds

- Other topics???
- Fall 2009 Day Camps
 - October 17th – topic TBD
 - October 24th – trees, leaves, fall, leaf litter creatures, hibernation...
 - October 31st – Evening camp. Nocturnal animals (owls, bats, coyotes), campfire, pumpkin carving / painting.

Next Education Committee Meeting is scheduled for May 1st, at 6:30 p.m. at the Waterloo Aquatic Education Center.

Water Quality Specialist Update (Amy Mackey):

- We (Ben & Amy) still need to draft a proposal for future funding for Water Quality Specialist position.
 - Need to research potential funding
 - Is RCP willing to make a donation toward the position?
- Sampling Completed
 - Pierce Run Pre-construction
 - Harble Griffith Tributaries
 - Flint Run East and Lake Milton Project Tributaries
 - Little Raccoon Creek Long Term Monitoring
 - East Branch Phase II Pre-construction
 - Middle Basin Long Term Monitoring
 - Mulga Run Project Sampling
 - Flint Run East Project Monitoring
 - Hewett Fork Long Term Monitoring
 - *Note: Jason McClarren at the MRM laboratory will be out of the lab from March 30th – April 20th, and on light duty until May 15th. Our sampling schedule during this period will be limited as there will only be one person at the lab to analyze samples. We plan to conduct reconnaissance during this time.*
- Lake Milton
 - Having problems with the Lake Milton Slag Bed, discharge has decreased from 120 gallons per minute in December to 40 gallons per minute now (slag crust issue?). ODNR has listed it as a priority to restore it to proper function.
- Mulga
 - Beavers have dammed up Jaymar SLB and spillway, needs to be cleared ASAP.
 - Beaver dams also need to be removed from the wetland.
 - Flow from Lincoln Pit SLB has decreased by half since fall of 2007 (slag crust issue?)
- Other
 - Attended OSU Extension / OEPA Workshop on writing project Study Plans.
 - Have had several people express interest in summer internship and AmeriCorps position. If you know someone who may be interested, have them send a cover letter and resume to Ben mccament@ohio.edu or myself amylmackey@gmail.com

AmeriCorps Update (Amy Mackey):

- Memorandum of Understanding between Rural Action and Raccoon Creek has been signed and Amy will submit it at the 27th meeting.
 - We will be discussing the application process and recruitment at this meeting!
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Water Trails Update:

- Rocky brought up the need for a new set of topo maps that will cover the entire RC watershed for use by RCP and RCWTA. Is RCP willing to cover the cost of these maps (\$170 total)??
- Next RCWTA meeting is April 16th at 6:30 at Waterloo.

RC Coordinator / Technical Committee Update (Ben McCament):

- Attended Southeast Ohio Watershed Council (SEOWC) meeting in Marietta on March 12th. Bylaws were amended and approved at the meeting that created a more formal structure and created voting and non-voting members. Raccoon Creek is one of the original members and has voting privileges. I was nominated and accepted a role on their 5 person steering committee and will serve as secretary for the upcoming year. This organization has been discussing taking a more active role in supporting the sustainability of regional watershed groups through seeking grant and foundation monies.
- I will be presenting at the annual WV Surface Mine Task Force Symposium in Morgantown WV on March 31st and April 1st. The presentation and paper is about the recovery of Little Raccoon Creek and the issues that need to be addressed for full recovery all the entire mainstem.
- I applied for scholarships to attend River Rally in Baltimore MD, May 29th – June 1st. ODNR is offering a \$400 award, River Rally also offers \$1-200 awards. This could leave only \$125 of the registration cost. ODNR is providing transportation to the conference as well for no cost.
- Pierce Run: We will be holding a public meeting in April in Radcliff to discuss the project with the public. Pierce Run Public Meeting will be held Thursday April 9th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the church on 160 in Radcliff.
- We will also be sponsoring a canoe float on Raccoon Creek as part of this project that will go past the confluence with Pierce Run. The canoe float will take place Saturday May 2nd. More info TBA.
- The 2010 Ohio EPA Section 319 grant is due May 7th. We are applying for the Harble Griffith Road project in West Branch. A meeting with ODNR engineers and project officer is scheduled for April 13th to decide on the scope and recommended strategy for AMD treatment at the site. I will prepare the grant application, with Amy's assistance, after that meeting.
- The Athens Foundation final report is prepared and ready to be submitted with Rocky's signature at the meeting.
- See Amy's report about monitoring activities.
- Next Raccoon Creek Forum (Technical Advisory Committee) meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 8th at the Voinovich School, building 22 on The Ridges, 9:00 am. The meeting will be held on the second floor conference room.
- MAIS training scheduled for Wed. June 24th 9:30 am to 4:00 pm at Voinovich School, Building 22. This is for watershed staff, students, volunteers, etc... who want to help with macroinvertebrate collection in the summer of 2009. We collect macro's at about 30 sites annually as part of our monitoring program. RSVP to Jen Bowman at bowmanj2@ohio.edu if you would like to attend.
- USDA Floodplain easement program registration open until March 27th, Friday. AOA has applied for the McCulty property along Raccoon Creek in Gallia County.

Membership and Fundraising

- Will be revisited at April meeting to decide on Poker Run date. Hocking Hills Poker Run is planned for the second weekend in May. We should have our Poker Run date planned and flyers printed to distribute at this event!

May RCP Public Meeting in Gallipolis

- We need a speaker! Any suggestions? Scott – would you like to present anything, possibly about your work on the Ohio River????
- Rocky suggested that we make it a spaghetti dinner, there is a stove in the room where we will be meeting. Rocky is willing to cook the spaghetti.

New Business / Announcements

- Jeff requested the use of the Stream Table for his student teaching. All in attendance approved it.
- Mike knows someone who is studying graphic design and needs to do some volunteer designing. We suggested that she comes up with possible designs for RCP stickers, t-shirts, poker run flyers...
- Mike announced that between he and his neighbors, approximately 2 miles of West Branch could potentially be protected under the USDA Floodplain Easement Program. More information will be available in the future.
- MAIS training will be held June 24th for everyone wanting to help with macroinvertebrate sampling this summer. Contact Jen at bowmanj2@ohio.edu if interested.
- Heike has invited the board to attend her graduation celebration at Lake Snowden on June 20th. Campsites can be reserved for \$10.
- Important Dates to remember before next meeting:
 - March 31st and April 1st – Ben presenting LRC recovery at WV Surface Mine Task Force Symposium.
 - First 3 weekends in April – WAEC Day camps
 - April 8th, 9:00 a.m. – RCP Tech Forum Meeting, Voinovich School
 - April 9th, 6:00 p.m. – Pierce Run meeting in Radcliff
 - April 16th, 6:30 p.m. RCWTA meeting at Waterloo
 - April 26th, 10:00 a.m. – AOA event at Waterloo
 - Next RCP meeting – April 29th, 6:30 p.m. at Waterloo

****Action Items****

Ben

- ✓ Work on 2009 – 2010 WQS proposal

Rocky

- ✓ ?

Scott

- ✓ Would you be interested in speaking at May meeting?

Jeff

- ✓ ?

Heike

- ✓ ?

Molly

- ✓ Water trails update?

Mike

- ✓ ?

Amy

- ✓ Work on 2009 – 2010 WQS proposal
- ✓ Submit final MOU to AmeriCorps

ALL!

- ✓ We need a speaker for May meeting in Gallipolis???????
- ✓ Contact Jen if interested in MAIS training.
- ✓ Approve / disapprove purchase of new topo maps
- ✓ Look into additional grants, and funding (AF, AEP, Diagnostic Hybrids, OEC, stimulus plan, EPA 319...)
- ✓ Compile list of community contacts for AmeriCorps members (email to Amy)