

SRWC Steering Committee Meeting

May 1, 2008 – Ag Center Conference Room, Tiffin, OH

Present: Chris Schimpf, Cindy Brookes, John Crumrine, Ann Bishop, Katie McKibben, Lee Orians, Kate Siefert, Bob Vargo, Joe Perry, Jocelyn Henderson

Welcome: Joe Perry – called the meeting to order and noted there are not enough voting members present for a quorum. Cindy will email any motions to the steering committee members with a request for votes.

Approval of Minutes: There was one correction noted for the April 2008 Steering Committee Meeting minutes – the location of the meeting should be changed from the Ag Center Conference Room to Heidelberg. John C. made the motion to approve the minutes as amended, Lee seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

Committee Reports

Ag – John C. - The Rock Creek Soil testing grant has been extended and will work with Country Star, Farmers COOP, Sunrise, etc. The GLPF grant soil testing protocol has been developed with Lee's assistance. On June 24th there will be a training session for soil testing review (Bob Mullin & Ed Lentz will do the training). For the Targeted Watershed Grant they are working with the Crawford, Seneca & Huron SWCD's to hire a Nutrient Management specialist.

Development – Cindy – They are planning a membership meeting for August 23rd at Winous Point & the Green Creek Hunt Club. The meeting will start at 7:30am with banding birds in the morning during migration and will include a luncheon.

Stream Flow & Habitat – John C. – They are corresponding with the USEPA & the GLPF for their grants.

Wastewater – Kate – The committee will be meeting May 7th to discuss possible grants and to focus their priorities.

Water Supply – Cindy – The grant for the well maintenance program was not submitted --- they are going to hold on to the grant until another opportunity arises. They could possibly combine the well maintenance aspect with a septic system or cistern maintenance program for low income homes. On June 10th there is a source water protection workshop.

Education – Cindy – The DVD is in for revision.

Staff Report – Cindy – distributed. Cindy attended the Sink Hole Education Meeting in Bellevue. She met with the Upper Sandusky Newspaper and they are going to do an article on the GLPF grant. She attended two CSP trainings.

Old Business

Corn Hole Boards/Bags – Cindy's husband & brother-in-law created 2 sets (4 boards) of Corn Hole Boards for the River Rally. Her brother-in-law airbrushed the boards and they have a map the counties with the watershed outlined in green and Lake Eric on the Boards. Joe P. made a motion to donate \$100 to Brian Brookes for the cost of air brushing the 4 boards. John C. seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

June & August Meeting Tours – The boat/river tour is scheduled for the June 5th meeting. We will meet at the WSOS office in Fremont for a quick steering committee meeting and then will proceed to the boat dock in Fremont for a 2 hour tour. Had originally planned on an August meeting at the Crawford County Landfill but may need to reschedule that for the September meeting. There will be no meeting in July due to the Holiday.

Budget Review – Distributed. In 2009 the Watershed Coordinator grant ends and we will need to start looking at what we will want to do.

New Business

Mitigation List – Bob V. – Since the Scenic Rivers has authority over publicly funded projects of a scenic river outside of a municipality, they try to require mitigation. Clyde is getting a new water line at Old Fort and depending on how they construct, that will determine if/how much they mitigate. Bob would like a running list created of projects in the watershed for mitigation projects. Katie M. – There is potential of monies going to the Tymochtee Creek Watershed in result of a penalty of an environmental crime. The requirements for this money are that there be an environmental benefit, it is a project not required by law or permit, and that the project is not funded by any other program. The group suggested logjam removal, tile blowouts, filters strips as possible suggestions.

Annual Meeting/Membership Meeting – The membership meeting will be August 23rd at Winous Point and the Annual Meeting will be later this fall.

Seneca County River Clean Sweep – A local group has not come forward due to liability. They would like the SRWC to take it on and find a donor to cover the cost (approximately \$1,200 of time, \$750 liability insurance, and \$500 accounting time). There was concern from the group that if the SRWC heads it up in one county, all five counties will want Cindy to head it up for them. Lee made a motion that Cindy & the SRWC have limited participation in all of the Watershed Clean Sweeps. Joe P. seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

Annual Review – Scheduled for June 3rd at 10:00am.

Crawford County Reclamation Project – Cindy met with a property owner in Bucyrus to discuss the possibility of converting this land back to floodplain. The property is a 32 unit (16 buildings) apartment complex on 7 acres adjacent to the Sandusky River that was severely damaged during the August 21, 2007 flood. The owner is interested in turning the land over as “green space” but would need assistance in covering the cost of demolition of the units. Cindy is searching for potential grants that could be utilized.

Announcements

River Rally is May 2-5 at Sawmill Creek Resort

Level 2 Macroinvertebrate Training will be June 4th at Old Woman Creek.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be June 5, 2008 at 8:00am located at the WSOS Brady 3rd Floor Conference Room following by a boat tour of the Sandusky River from Fremont to Muddy Creek Bay.

-notes submitted by Kate Siefert