

Minutes
Black Creek Watershed Coalition
Monday, November 15, 2004
Riga Town Hall

Present: Jennifer Balonek, Riga Conservation Board; Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning and Development; Charlie Knauf, Monroe County Department of Public Health; Caroline Myers, Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District; Robert Remillard USDA NRCS Lakes Plains RC&D; George Squires, Genesee County SWCD; Pat Tindale, Chili Conservation Board; Larry VerWeire, Riga citizen; Lyle Warren, Village of Churchville; Bob Wilkins Monroe County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board.

Action items are underlined throughout the minutes.

1. Introductions, assignment of roles, questions about minutes

Introductions were made. Dorothy Borgus managed the meeting, Charlie Knauf was Scribe, and Robert Remillard agreed to watch the clock.

- 2. The Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC) Great Lakes Commission Grant.** Comments (final) are due by the end of the month, and can be sent individually or given to Rochelle for combination and transfer to David Zorn. David sent comments to Rochelle indicating changes made based on the September meeting. A suggestion was made that #27 on the Municipal Law Review Chart be changed from Wells to Extraction Wells to address Whitney's concern about this subject in September, and avoid confusion with potable water wells. There was also some discussion about use of the term junkyard as opposed to auto-recyclers, and the suggestion that the terms be interchanged, and a section be added dealing with auto repair facilities and other small business waste generators. Bob Wilkins suggested addition of a category for commercial industrial activities that could include all of these. On the Practices and Ordinances Assessment form, attendees wondered if we were looking for an analysis or listing of stream corridor protection measures such as incentive zoning, EPOD districts, and especially setbacks from streambanks, and whether this should be applied to existing or new development. Bob Remillard suggested that rather than breaking it all out into a new section, it could be done as one topic and then a listing compiled. Rochelle will talk to Dave about this to clarify, and may e-mail committee members for additional feedback. A discussion followed on cluster development pro's and con's, and some discussion of smart growth policies as they are being implemented in Genesee County. Bob Wilkins suggested adding something to the Practices and Ordinances Assessment form about major Railroad and Interstate crossings and emergency or hazard plans and whether they protect the resource. Get comments to Rochelle ASAP as they are due to GFLRPC.

- 3. The Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC) Great Lakes Commission Grant Town Meeting Outline:** Jennifer Balonek identified a need to add the villages of Bergen and Churchville to the list. Members from the Riga area felt that it could easily be scheduled for a workshop meeting, and that Riga has

Workshop and regular Town Board Meetings. Rochelle explained that at the meeting last Tuesday with Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Board, including Joe Carr, Bob Patterson, Bob Wilkins, Bob Eichenberg, they identified that each municipality is a little different, and some towns would rather the presentation be made to the Planning Board, or zoning board. George explained that it was necessary to give the presentation to the Town Board as we are also asking for a resolution approving the call for cooperation. Pat Tindale said that in Chili, a special meeting with the Conservation Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board would be good, and then Joe Carr could walk the resolution through the full Town Board. A question was asked whether the Town of Caledonia had ever approved the Call for Cooperation done by the Oatka Watershed Committee. Pat Tindale asked about the accuracy of the population numbers and percentages included as part of the fact sheet for distribution to municipal officials. Jennifer Balonek asked about what actions the municipalities might be asked to take. George explained that the Call for a Cooperation was just that, a call to work together to define the issues along the creek and then attempt to find common ground in resolving those issues. Charlie commented that we felt that any action that improves or protects the creek will require municipal agreement, and this is a way of getting agreement to participate. George indicated that this could also be more of an educational process, ordinances that protect the stream may already be on the books but not enforced, or may lead to a recommendation that existing processes be looked at more closely. Dorothy suggested maybe doing some Public relations work with the local newspapers before the meeting in Chili. Rochelle asked that additional comments be sent to her. Bob Wilkins also indicated that as part of this effort, the maps going to each municipal board should be custom highlighted to show that municipality in relation to the entire watershed.

4. **FL-LOWPA Special Projects Fund Grant:** Rochelle Bell and George Squires have talked about this. Rochelle did not see any advantage to the Black Creek group to attempting to “tweak” the Water Education Collaborative Application and combine in Black Creek. As Genesee County does not currently have a proposal, it might be better to submit from there. Charlie indicated that the Monroe County Water Quality Coordinating Committee could still approve submission of a WEC application without inclusion of Black Creek as a special area, but this shouldn’t interfere with a Genesee County application. A question was raised about what the funding would be used for if received. The general category of Public Education and Outreach Materials, to include watershed signs, the fact sheet on a more glossy format, and guide map and history like the Oatka pamphlet were agreed to. George proposed not defining the printed materials any more specifically than print materials and watershed signage. A resolution for the Coalition to support application for the FL-LOWPA Special Projects Fund grant to support development and printing of public education and outreach materials was moved, seconded and passed.
5. **Display Board:** Everyone who went to the FL-LOWPA conference commented on the professionalism of the display board, and kudos are extended to Robert Remillard for the excellent work he did on this. On the map, there is a list of things that we still

need. George indicated that the gray board might need a bracket to hold the center in place, especially if a larger map is to be used in the center of the board. He also suggested that we need a larger banner identifying the watershed. Rochelle said she could do the sign and banner but needed the desired dimensions. George has the LIDAR map from the MCDES presentation, and will look at it for the display board. Robert Remillard said it is necessary to update the sheets on one side of the board that deal with the subcommittees, and add information about the grants and things that are actually being done right now. Robert still has EPA Watershed CD's that were distributed at the FLOWPA conference, and George has a watershed planning videotape that could be shown at the December meeting.

6. **Greenway Bridge:** Rochelle did not talk to Mark Noll, and Charlie did not talk to Steve Buvey (sp?) of NYSDOT about the title to the property in the area. Pat Tindale recommended Joan Schoemacher (sp?) at the Greenway as another source of information.
7. The meeting was adjourned without motion at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 9, 2004, at the Riga Town Hall.