

Minutes
Black Creek Watershed Coalition
Wednesday, August 31, 2005

Present: Patricia Tindale, Chili Conservation Board; Dorothy Borgus, Chili resident; John Appleby & Vicki Strong, Chili residents'; Lyle Warren, Village of Churchville; Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning & Development; Bob Wilkins, Monroe County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board; Don Hoyt, LeRoy CAC; Joe 'Carr, Town of Chili Commissioner of Public Works; Dick Spade, People for Parks; Charles Rettig, Chili resident; Robert Remillard, USDA NCRS & Lake Plains RC & D; Roger Rouse, Town of Byron

Action items are underlined throughout the minutes.

Introductions, assignment of roles, questions about minutes: Introductions were made. Meeting manager was Bob Wilkins. Rochelle Bell was facilitator. Dorothy Borgus was scribe, and timekeeper was Lyle Warren.

Black Creek Park Wetland Creation: 60,000 cubic feet of soil will be removed, excavated down to a level that will be wet, with top soil being "treated" to wetland soil. Soil will be stockpiled and removed to a 10-acre site on Morgan Road at the south end of Black Creek Park. One-half of this acreage will be ballfields, and the remainder will be 2 soccer fields or 4 baseball fields. There are no funds allocated for lighting at the present time. The plan for creation of this wetland was presented to the Monroe County Parks Advisory Committee weeks ago. There are no plans for further public meetings. The SEQR process is the next step. The Audubon Society, the Radio Controlled Flyer Group and the Chili Historical Society have had individual meetings to hear details of this project. Vicki Strong and John Appleby expressed concerns about losing privacy, loss of wildlife habitat, increased traffic and people loitering after games on the proposed ballfields. Rochelle Bell will suggest extra plantings of trees along the east property line of the parkland where it abuts adjacent private property. Considering the drop-off at this point, the difference in elevation should offer protection in noise levels for adjacent landowners. The entrance has not yet been approved by NYS DOT. Charles Rettig inquired about the location of the entrance; will be off Morgan Road. Roger Rouse suggested that trees be planted along both south and east park lines in this area. The first field has a target start date of October 1; the second field will have a start date of spring, 2006. Bob Wilkins and Charles Rettig both voiced concerns about siltation from soil removal. It was agreed that this would have to be monitored very closely at the time of removal. Pat Tindale and Dorothy Borgus both mentioned that land which was a grassy field at one time is now overgrown with scrub. Rochelle Bell will suggest moving some mowed fields west of the new wetland.

Meeting with Mary Lou Rath: Bob Wilkins, Dave Zorn, Rick Van Vertloh. George Squires, and the Chair of the Genesee County Soil & Water Advisory Board met with Mary Lou Rath on August 15 at her office in Williamsville. They explained our goals, needs and Susan John's plan to write a bill for the Legislature covering our mission and requesting funding. They asked Mary Lou Rath to support. She suggested State Senator George Mariarz for support. Dave Zorn has lined up a meeting with Senator Mariarz on September 7 in his Brockport office. Lyle Warren suggested a meeting with Senator Alessi as well.

Grant Updates: Nothing yet on Wilson Foundation application per Robert Remillard.

Update on Participation: Town of Bergen has passed a resolution to participate. Maureen Leupold and Dave Zorn will go to Clarendon later this month for presentation of State of the Basin Report and future plans.

Display Boards: All requests have been met. Small display boards are presently located in Chili, Scottsville, Churchville and Bergen. More small boards can be prepared if requested.

Other: Rochelle Bell received an e-mail from Paul Richards, SUNY Brockport Hydrogeology professor regarding phosphorus hot-spots in the watershed. His concerns are similar to stressors named in the

Nature Conservancy model. Rochelle will contact Professor Richards and suggest he get together with the Nature Conservancy. SUNY Brockport brought model of Black Creek watershed to recent Soil & Water Conservation Society meeting in Rochester. The Great Lakes representative and SUNY personnel toured parts of the watershed with Dave Zorn, Mark Noll and Robert Remillard.

Welcome to New Representative in Coalition: Pat Brennan is the new representative from Middlebury. We look forward to his input in the group!

Next meeting: Rochelle will arrange our September 29 meeting at Black Creek Park when we will walk the site of the proposed wetland.