



# *Department of Planning and Development*

Monroe County, New York

**Maggie Brooks**  
*County Executive*

**Terrence G. Slaybaugh**  
*Director*

## **MINUTES** **Black Creek Watershed Coalition** Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Present: Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning and Development; Charlie Knauf, Monroe County Department of Public Health; Robert Remillard, USDA NRCS Lakes Plains RC&D; Dorothy Borgus, Town of Chili; Lyle Warren, Churchville Zoning Board of Approvals; Tom Klafehn, Town of Riga; Joe Carr, Town of Chili; Roger Rouse, Town of Byron; Betsy Johnson, Bergen citizen; and Don Hoyt, LeRoy CAC; Caroline Myers, Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District; Larry VerWeir, Riga citizen; George Squires, Genesee County Soil & Water Conservation District; and Bob Wilkins, Chili citizen and Monroe County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board

Action items are underlined throughout the minutes.

**Introductions, assignment of roles, questions about minutes.** Bob Wilkins managed, Lyle Warren kept time, Rochelle Bell facilitated and Charlie Knauf scribed.

Minutes from the February 27, 2006 meeting were approved as written. The approved minutes will be posted on the website.

**Black Creek Park Wetland Project:** Excavation of the area south of haul road is nearly done. A planting date will be set in two or three weeks. The County did receive a call from a neighbor near the south area about the slamming tailgate noise – they were OK with the noise once they knew its source. John Applebee e-mailed Rochelle wondering if plans for the south area have been finalized: they have not.

### **Grant Updates:**

- 1) Caroline Myers and Joe Carr submitted an application to the Great Lakes Commission for a \$60,000.00 grant to fund a Black Creek shoreline restoration project on 33A near Union Station. Vyt B. was very helpful in preparing the grant.

Caroline, Vyt and Joe developed their own budget (as opposed to lifting the budget directly out of the sediment control report.) A 25% match is required and was more than met with the in-kind contributions of the Town of Chili and the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District. A lot of the restoration work will be done by the Town of Chili.

The grant application was strengthened by the including the use of NRCS specifications in the restoration plan. Also, the erosion threatens a roadway which makes it a high priority for funding.

Rochelle had a question about the effect of rip-rap on amphibian habitat. Charlie explained that hard surfaces in lake environments can inhibit amphibian movement between upland and aquatic habitats, but it's not the same issue in streams.

A lot of hard work went into preparing the grant application and the Coalition thanks Caroline, Vyt and Joe for their efforts.

- 2) Rochelle spoke with Dave Zorn and reported that G/FLRPC's work on existing Great Lakes Basin Program grant is due in June. The local law review will be on their website, [www.gflrpc.org](http://www.gflrpc.org), at the end of April. We will be provided with a one to two page summary that we can comment on. Jason Haremza is working with Bethany, Sweden and Warsaw and that work is going very well.
- 3) We are waiting for the completion of the NYS budget process to see what happens with Susan John's member item to fund our Watershed Action Plan. The budget is expected to be done on time.
- 4) This year's EPF grant has been announced. G/FL will wait to see if we get money from the state legislature before re-submitting the application that has been submitted for the last two years. The application is due May 26.
- 5) Robert wrote a grant application to the Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network & Fund for the Black Creek Watershed Map Guide. Robert spoke with Whitney and Whitney is interested in working with us on this. The reasonableness of the cost estimate was discussed. George said the Oatka Guide was printed by Hodgkins in Batavia. Robert checked with BOCES – they may be able to print it. Dorothy said that the complicated fold of a map could be a problem, she recommended Evolution Impressions – they do the League of Women Voters brochure. The grant application is due on March 31; awards will be announced in July.

Discussion of the grant segued into a detailed discussion of the guide.

### **Map Guide:**

Joe supports topics including history, water quality, points of interest

Or... history, points of interest, ecology and environmental education...

Group will help id locations.

Watch out for creases in map – don't crease picture.

Work on content of text.

Do we have metadata for mapping? Yes.

Can use inset map for details.

Map orientation: landscape, given shape of watershed.

Use smaller font than Oatka, maybe 12

Sponsorship: we could solicit a few sponsors via letters, but it is too early in the process to start this. Will be able to identify use for sponsors' dollars better later in process.

Robert Remillard offered to lead the Map Guide effort and the following people volunteered to be on a Map Guide committee: Rochelle Bell, Charlie Knauf, Dorothy

Borgus, Lyle Warren, Betsy Johnson and Bob Wilkins; as mentioned earlier, Whitney Autin also offered to provide technical support. The committee will probably meet separately from the BCWC.

Everyone should continue to generate ideas at home. Think about pictures, places of interest, historical tidbits, and design.

Rochelle will continue adding our ideas to the brainstorm list.

**Display Boards:**

Big Board: It went to the headwaters of the Genesee River with Laura Arney! Charlie will take it to the Stormwater Conference and then get it to George who will use it for Earth Day on April 22. George will bring it to the next BCWC meeting, on 4/26, and then Lyle will take the board for the Churchville Arbor Day festival.

Small Boards: 1) Churchville Chili science classes; 2) Chili library; 3) Gillam Grant Center; and 4) Scottsville.

**Other:**

Genesee Transportation Council initiative on trail on West Shore Railroad. For more information call Rich Perrin at GTC.

**Village of Churchville**

- Charrette on May 5&6, Lyle described Charrette process and brochures were distributed. Black Creek is an integral part of the Village of Churchville and should be discussed at the Charrette.
- Does Black Creek need to be dredged upstream of Churchville dam? Rochelle has SOMEONE at the training program express concern about the shallow nature of the creek and the potential for flooding at Willow bend. Who has jurisdiction on the dam?
- Land Use workshop on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Website: A few good suggestions were shared. Further feedback is due to Rochelle by the April meeting; she will combine and consolidate comments and them to Carol Zollweg.

Bergen Swamp hike: Open house is May 20<sup>th</sup>. Rochelle will talk to Patti Coan about a BCWC hike in June.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 26 in Byron. Rochelle will talk to Roger Rouse to confirm location.

The May meeting will include a hike on the Greenway Bridge. Joe Carr offered to meet us at the Chili Town Hall with a van and drive us to the trailhead.