

# BLACK CREEK WATERSHED COALITION



## MEETING MINUTES: 12/13/06

Attendees: Larry VerWeire, Riga Resident; Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning and Development; Betsy Johnson, Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District; Judy Spring, Cornell Cooperative Extension; Dan Hoyt, Town of LeRoy; George Squires, Genesee County Soil and Water Conservation District; Jennifer Balonek, Riga Conservation Board; Lyle Warren, Village of Churchville; Joe Carr, Town of Chili; Marty Mollinari, citizen; Charlie Knauf, Monroe County Department of Public Health; Robert Remillard, USDA, NRCS, Lake Plains Resource Conservation and Development

M: L. VerWeire; TK: L. VerWeire; SC: B. Johnson

Action items are underlined in the minutes.

Changes to the agenda include moving “Update on Government Methodologies Study” to parking lot or next meeting agenda and the addition of other grant opportunities.

There were no changes to the minutes for November 2006.

### **2007 Meeting Schedule**

C.Knauf will send R. Bell the Oatka Creek Watershed Meeting Schedule to see if meetings will be on the same day so that members of both groups can attend both meetings in LeRoy. This applies to the meetings scheduled for February, June, and October. There is a fifth Monday on October. C. Knauf suggested changing the meeting from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed that November 27<sup>th</sup> is a better date than November 20<sup>th</sup> for BCWC to meet.

### **New Co-Chair Election**

Bob Wilkins’ term as Chair is ending. L. VanWeire, who is now Co-Chair, will serve as Chair for two years. New Co-Chair will serve as Co-Chair for two years and then as Chair for two years. J. Carr nominated L. Warren, J. Balonek seconded. L. Warren accepted the nomination for Co-Chair.

### **Map Guide**

Pat Tindale has comments about website; she will meet with R. Remillard to discuss. R.Bell will send out an announcement when the meeting it is scheduled so others can join them. L. Warren looked at the website today and said that it looks good.

Projected costs for a graphic artist and printing are \$5,500; this is based on a couple of estimates, one from Hodgins Printing. BCWC did not get grant from the Great Lakes Aquatic Life Network because the project does not have an advocacy component, which they are looking to fund, and does not fit with BCWC mission.

R. Bell gave an update to the Water Quality Coordinating Committee, where Harry Reiter from Monroe County Department of Environmental Services (DES) said that they may be able to help with printing.

The brochures of the Stormwater Coalition (SWC) will be available to the BCWC. Topics include rain gardens, lawn care, and pool maintenance. R. Bell will talk to Harry Reiter, DES, show him the Oatka Guide, explain the map guide project and see how his office might be able to help with printing.

A graphic artist may be available through DES. Otherwise, it was suggested to try RIT or the City of Rochester's School of the Arts. An art contest was suggested as a way to provide meaningful curriculum to schools and give students a chance to have their work printed. It was suggested that we may want to focus on high schools in the BC watershed. C. Knauf has a contact at Churchville/Chili high school. The science classes at the BC schools should be familiar with the watershed since the display boards have been in their schools. R. Bell will first talk to DES and then update the group so they can then decide how to proceed.

### **Fundraising**

BCWC received \$125 in response to letter campaign. R. Bell has more letters and envelopes if anyone is interested in mailing more out. Follow up efforts: J. Balonek offered to call politicians and businesses on the mailing lists. R. Bell will email anyone whose email address she has and get contact lists together for J. Balonek. R. Bell will bring a list of the people who were not contacted by a phone call or email and the group will discuss if they want to follow up further with those people. One idea was to send a postcard to people that haven't responded.

### **Tracking time and expenses for EPF Grant, contact municipalities**

R. Bell handed out tracking sheets to record time, travel, mileage, postage, and room rental rates associated with BCWC activities to document match for the EPF Grant. Any contribution beginning 10/20/06 should be tracked. There are people involved with BCWC that do not come to the meetings; they need to track contributions as well. L. VerWeire requested the forms in excel to save paper. R. Bell will email the form to the group.

Town Supervisors and Town Boards should be contacted to let them know BCWC received funding from EPF. Since there is a lot of overlap between the Oatka Creek and Black Creek, it makes sense to give one presentation for both groups. David Zorn, G/FLRPC, may be able to make this presentation. R. Bell will contact G/FLRPC about providing a presentation.

R. Bell will investigate if the fees paid by municipalities to the Stormwater Coalition can be used as a match for the EPF grant.

### **Other Grant Opportunities**

Waste Management put out an RFP for water quality projects. BCWC may want to apply for funding to support projects. A scholarship for an art contest for the map guide was suggested. Applications are accepted year round and reviewed continuously. R. Bell invited Jeff Richardson, Mill Seat Landfill, to a BCWC Meeting. There is a Citizens Advisory Committee that meets quarterly; the next meeting is in January. J. Balonek will find out when the next meeting is scheduled.

National fish and Wildlife - 5 Star

The deadline for proposals is March 9<sup>th</sup>. R. Remillard said that it was his impression that funded projects had an on-the-ground component. BCWC may be able to use information from the Lou Engineers Report for projects that may fit.

F-LOWPA special projects announcement should be out soon.

Great Lakes Erosion and Sedimentation should release a RFP soon. The design work was funded through this group, so they may be a good place to seek implementation funds.

C. Knauf said there is funding potential for wetland projects. Northeast of Mill Seat Landfill has significant state wetlands; it may be a good place for a project.

D. Hoyt suggested that COMIDA may be interested in funding the map guide as a quality of life project or at the least, BCWC should talk to the group about where development would be appropriate along Black Creek.

Land Use Decision Making training in May will have a Green Building Session.

### **Other**

J. Balonek asked who has jurisdiction on boat speeds in the creek. R. Bell suggested she start with DEC.

R. Bell will send a draft outline of the Watershed Plan to BCWC members. *(n.b. this conflicts with Dave Zorn's suggested watershed planning process – we'll get to the outline later.)*

### **Display Boards**

Display boards will remain where they are through the next month.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. L. VerWeire will contact the Town of Riga to see if the Town Hall Multipurpose Room is available. *(n.b. the BCWC will meet with the OCWC and Dave Zorn from G/FLRPC to discuss the Watershed Plan grant at the LeRoy Village Hall on Thursday, January 22. The BCWC meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. while the joint meeting with OCWC will begin at 6:30 p.m.)*

R. Remillard suggested that Oatka Creek Watershed and BCWC have combined meetings on an as-needed basis, such as when a presenter comes to the meeting. R. Bell will talk to Oatka Creek about combining meetings, which may alter plans for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.