

Black Creek Watershed Coalition Meeting Minutes

Date: April 29, 2009

Location: Churchville Village Hall

Attendance: Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning & Development; Peggy Grayson, Town of Stafford; Tom Ryther, Genesee Land Trust – Brookdale Pres.; George Squires, Genesee County SWCD; Judy Spring, Genesee County SWCD; Pat Tindale, Town of Chili Conservation Board; Larry VerWeir, Riga resident; Lyle Warren, Churchville Zoning Board of Appeals.

Visitor: Frank Perry, Village of Churchville

Action Items Underlined

1. Introductions were made. March minutes were accepted without change.
2. Map Guide Distribution – the Map Guides are very popular and the feedback is very positive. Pat has boxes of guides in the back of her car for those who need more. Rochelle will send a Map Guide to Robert Remillard. Tom will take copies of the Guide to the City library.
3. By Laws – Oatka Creek Watershed Coalition's bylaws were discussed. The BCWC needs bylaws whether or not it becomes a 501c3. The bylaws will be the same whether or not we pursue 501c3 status. George and Judy have experience with ACORNS becoming a 501c3 and find it's not too expensive or complicated the 501c3 does not have very much money. George and Rochelle, members of the Lake Plains RC&D Council, will talk with Council about the BCWC using their 501c3 status.

Peggy, Lyle and Jennifer will prepare a draft set of bylaws for the next meeting for the group to discuss. It will be fashioned after the Oatka Creek by-laws, but will also include a purpose section; a provision for open membership; an article on meetings – when they are public and when they don't need to be public.

4. George gave a powerpoint presentation of the Black Creek streambank repair work done at Elderberry Acres, Cheri Scudder's property. It appeared the cause of the erosion, which threatened the bridge that carries the driveway, was an outfall pipe that drains a perimeter drain surrounding the septic system in the floodplain.

This led to a general discussion of floodplain development and the way some municipalities permit too much floodplain development, how some municipalities say no to floodplain development and how even when a municipality says no, the developer and contractor might take advantage of a lack of oversight.

5. Watershed Planning – The Town of Wheatland and the Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council received the signed contract from NYS DOS. We should keep our 2006 outline in mind as we proceed through the NYS DOS process. George will send the "BCWC Action Plan" outline to everyone with the next agenda.
6. Display Boards – Lyle gave Judy the big board to take to the Cool Kids Eco Fest @ GCC tomorrow.
7. Frank Perry asked how he would get the segment of Black Creek below the dam to be "catch and release" only. There are a lot of fish there, but it gets fished out. The group recommended Frank contact DEC Fisheries in Avon and the Monroe County Fishery Advisory Board.
8. Next Meeting: Thursday, May 28, 2009, 5:30. George will check with Town of Byron about a room.