

## **Black Creek Watershed Coalition Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 2, 2010

**Location:** Churchville Village hall

**Attendance:** Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning & Development; Dorothy Borgus, Town of Chili resident; Peggy Grayson, Town of Stafford resident; Tucker Kautz, Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District; Judy Spring, Genesee County SWCD; George Squires, Genesee County SWCD; Tom Ryther, Genesee Land Trust; Pat Tindale, Town of Chili Conservation Board; and Lyle Warren, Village of Churchville Zoning Board of Appeals

Guests: Brian Slack, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (GF/L); Steve Lewandowski, Center for Environmental Information (CEI) Lake Ontario Coastal Initiative (LOCI); and Ron Entringer & Dan Hayes, NYS DEC, Division of Water, Albany.

### **Action Items Underlined**

**Agenda and minutes:** January 2010 minutes were reviewed. Note: The streambank restoration in Chili is not on the Pfrengel Property; and G/FL did NOT get a contract extension from NYS DOS yet.

**Watershed Planning Update:** G/FL received RFQ's from Cornell, EcoLogic, SUNY Brockport and Lu Engineers. A selection committee will be formed from the Project Advisory Committee (PAC). Selection criterion will be developed from the method used to choose the State of the Basin (SOB) consultant.

G/FL will begin the watershed characterization section soon; they will use the existing SOB's as a basis of information. A draft outline of this section will be presented at the 3/8/10 PAC meeting.

According to DOS, the project extension request is moving along.

**By-laws:** Lyle distributed revised draft. **George will email these to the whole group. Everyone should review and get their comments to Lyle by March 24.**

**TMDLs:** Thanks to Recovery Act money, LOCI is partnering with the Great Lakes Commission (GLC) and DEC's Division of Water to create a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for phosphorus for the lower segment of Black Creek (Churchville to mouth, we think). An application was submitted to the Great Lakes Research Initiative (GLRI) for funding a TMDL study for the upper segment of Black Creek (headwaters to Byron, we think). This is the first TMDL in the state for a stream.

The TMDL is for phosphorus since evidence indicates that phosphorus is the greatest local contributor to degraded water quality. The study will identify

background phosphorus levels and the distribution of phosphorus among uses (e.g. waste water treatment plants; agricultural fields).

The results of the TMDL study will be used to regulate things like waste water treatment plant discharge, MS4s, and septic systems. There may be money for improvements required to meet new regulations.

Investigators will start water quality monitoring this summer as part of the RIBS.

There was discussion about how to coordinate the TMDL and Watershed planning process. While some of the needed information overlaps, the timelines don't mesh well.

**Great Lakes Commission Program for Erosion and Sediment Control Grant Application:** Application for approximately \$800,000 for work in Black and Oatka Creek watersheds (e.g. stream buffers, exclusional fencing, cover cropping, etc). **Cross your fingers!**

**Green Infrastructure:** G/FL received \$100,000 for planning for Green Infrastructure (stormwater management; e.g. permeable pavement). Outreach process will begin this summer.

**Map Guides:** We need so sort out who has what.

**Display Board:** Lyle needs the big board for Arbor Days (April 23-25). **He will contact George about getting it from him.**

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, March 31, 2010. **Pat will let George know if the Town Hall or Library meeting rooms are available.**