

Black Creek Watershed Coalition Meeting Minutes

Date: July 22, 2010

Location: Town of Riga, Riga Town Hall Multipurpose Room

Attendance: Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning & Development; Peggy Grayson, Stafford; George Squires, Genesee County SWCD; Chuck Rettig, Chili; Tim Ruffin, Trustee Village of Bergen; David Lindsay, Town of Chili, Commissioner of Public Works; Thomas Klafehn, Town of Riga Highway Superintendent, Dorothy Borgus, Town of Chili Comp. Plan 2030 Committee, Stephen Lewandowski, LOCI & CEI; Larry VerWeire, Riga resident; Maegan Dills, Intern Conservation Connects; Tucker Kautz, Monroe County SWCD

Action Items Underlined

1. June 29 minutes were reviewed and approved with addition of Peggy Grayson added to attendance.
2. Watershed Planning Update. The contract with Ecologic has been negotiated. There will be a teleconference meeting with DOS, Ecologic, Genesee Finger Lakes Planning and BCWC representatives. The next step is to hammer out the scope of work with Ecologic. The contract extension was approved. Oatka Creek Committee is making appearances at municipal board meetings to reintroduce itself and update officials on their activities
3. Total Maximum Daily Load. Steve Lewandowski distributed maps, fact sheets and sampling chart on Black and Oatka Creeks and discussed the definition of TMDL. He noted that Black Creek is designated as "impaired" and noted the difference in levels between baseline and storm conditions. He asked if those present had seen evidence of impairment. He also mentioned the new State law that will ban the use of phosphorus in dishwashers and residential fertilizers.
4. Great Lakes Basin Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Grant Award. The application was submitted through Ag & Markets Soil & Water Committee and is expected to be approved. It is a 3-year, \$800,000 grant focusing on agricultural practices like stream banks and crop land. This was the only one in New York State to be approved. The farmers share depends on the practice being implemented. George asked that those present let SWCD offices know about farmers in need of the program. A PR campaign will also be coming out.
5. Watershed Symposium (October 28, 2010). Woodside Lodge at Black Creek Park is reserved at no charge. The draft agenda was discussed. Rick VenVertloh will do a presentation on trout fishing. The Bergen Swamp Preservation Society will have someone talk about the swamp. The breakout sessions will be eliminated and other topics put in. Suggestions included: history and development of the creeks, stream bank stabilization projects like Stottle Rd. and Stearns and Griffin Rds., examples of the work that the coalition does that leads to municipalities getting funding for projects. 30 minutes will be available for AEM. Tucker will ask Kelly Emerick to speak. Dave will talk to Fran Reese at Lu Engineers. Advertising for the event will be via mailings, emails and flyers. Discussion went to map guides. Dave will let Rochelle know how many Chili has. George will check to see what he has. There is \$1,975 for printing flyers and mailings and the rest is for printing map guides. Rochelle will get a flyer made up for Oatka Creek to take to their presentation in Bethany on August 9.
6. Mill Seat Landfill Open House. The hours are from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. George and Larry will set up at 2:30.
7. Black Creek Park Mitigation Status. Rochelle explained that Buckthorn is an invasive they will be removing along with purple loosesrife and phragmites. At this point there are 6.57 acres of wetland -- 6.07 acres must be built somewhere else. The County is looking at a 60 acre site on Ballantyne Rd., 40 of which would be useable. Dorothy asked about getting a copy of the full report. Rochelle will send her a copy.
8. Next meeting. Monday, August 30 at Genesee County Park, Bethany. We will once again have pizza and whatever members bring. George will send a sign up list with the meeting notice.