

Black Creek Watershed Coalition Meeting Minutes

Date: January 27, 2011

Location: Chili Town Hall

Attendance: Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Department of Planning & Development; Dorothy Borgus, Town of Chili Comprehensive Plan Committee; Art Buckley, Wyoming County Planning; Peggy Grayson, Town of Stafford representative and GLOW Recycling; Tucker Kautz, Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District; Peter Lent, interested citizen; John Hovanesian, Lake Plains Resource Conservation and Development Council; Thomas Hryvniak, Urbanologist and Water Enthusiast; Brian Ostling, Town of Chili, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works; Brian Slack, Planner, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council; Judy Spring, Genesee County SWCD; George Squires, Genesee County SWCD; Pat Tindale, Town of Chili Comprehensive Plan Committee and Conservation Board; Tom Ryther, Genesee Land Trust; and Lyle Warren, Village of Churchville Zoning Board of Appeals.

Action Items Underlined

Introductions, assignment of roles, changes to agenda, minutes: Introductions were made. Lyle led the meeting in Larry's absence (Get Well Soon, Larry!), a few items were added to the agenda, and the November 2010 minutes were reviewed and accepted with corrections.

SWCD AgNPSACP – Round 17 Applications: The NYS Soil and Water Conservation District Agricultural Nonpoint Sources Abatement and Control Program (SWCD AgNPSACP) has \$11M for the state's SWCD's projects. Genesee County submitted an application for agricultural waste projects on one farm in the Black Creek watershed (and three farms in the Oatka Creek watershed, but who's counting?). Genesee County requested \$878K, farmers have to match 25%. The Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District submitted an application with Genesee County and Wyoming County to do erosion and sediment control projects on 13 farms in the two watersheds. The state grant would be matched with federal funds from the Great Lakes Commission, reducing the farmers' match to 12.5%. Farmers' matches can be in the form of the value of land taken out of production or time and money spend cover cropping.

GLRI Erosion and Sediment Control grant status: The federal government awarded approximately \$500K over a three year period for erosion and sediment control projects in the Black and Oatka Creek watersheds. Projects will be chosen based on Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) work. Discussion ensued about how AEM can be folded into the Watershed Plans. There will be a kick-off for the grant in central location – **George will provide more details soon.**

Pat brought up the fact that developers use practices that negatively impact the creek and its tributaries and that it is difficult to get someone onsite in short enough time to look at the violation. **Brian will report at the next meeting what a concerned citizen in should do when see this kind of activity – what to do if Dave Lindsay is not available.**

Watershed Symposium wrap-up: Lyle read Rochelle's memo to Louise Hartshorn and Charlie Knauf regarding the Watershed Symposium and how the F-LLOWPA funds were used. The group noted that they also appreciated Dorothy's skill at keeping time in an effective, gentle and amusing way. Rochelle showed pictures Donna Alder took at the symposium – a few of these could go into the next newsletter.

2010 Annual Report: Everyone was grateful to George for writing this; it is a good thing to do.
Everyone should review the report and let George know if there are any changes or additions – due Friday 2/4/11. George will make corrections and distribute to BCWC via e-mail. Rochelle will ask Carol to post to website.

TMDLs: SUNY Brockport is still monitoring water quality in the watersheds. Brian reported the CEI expects to have the first draft of their TMDL report completed in a few months.

Watershed Planning Update: The watershed characterization will be completed in a few weeks. The draft report will be posted to the G/FL website and the link will be e-mailed and Brian will distribute hard copies to the PACs, who will have a few weeks to review it. The PAC will get together to discuss the report and then meet with Brian to share their comments. Brian will incorporate comments and then there will be a public meeting (one evening in April or May).

AEM: Tucker is adjusting the AEM strategic plan to accommodate the GLRI grant. He will call an AEM advisory meeting to describe the changes in the next month or two. The BCWC will be invited.

MapGuide: Rochelle reported that Phoenix Graphics won the bid for the next printing of the MapGuide. Their proof was passed around to the group and it was found unacceptable. The paper is not of similar quality to the original; a double fold of the accordion does not work with the Guide's design; and the color does not match the original. Rochelle will work with Louise to see if Phoenix Graphics can be rejected. See if their bid reflects the same quality of paper and folding as Monroe Litho. The group pointed out that we own the MapGuide and that we could get the inDesign files from Monroe Litho. IF Phoenix Graphic does the printing take their name off the Guide.

Cool Kids! EcoFest: Steve Appleton contacted George et. al about the April 9, 2011, EcoFest at Genesee Community College. They will be collecting electronics, sneakers and paperback books. George will have a table there.

Display Boards: The large board is in the Genesee County SWCD office. Lyle needs the board for the Arbor Day festivities in Churchville. He will let George know the exact date. No one remembers where the small boards are. **Tom Ryther will track down the location of the two (or were there three?) small display boards.**

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 22, 2011. **George will call Tim about having the meeting in Bergen.** The August meeting will be our annual meeting: **George will send out the 2011 calendar of meeting dates again.**

Tom Ryther reported that a student from St. Lawrence University is studying wetlands in Chili and will make a presentation to the BCWC in the summer.