

**Black Creek Watershed Coalition
Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2011**

Location: Chili DPW

Attendance: Roberta Ames, Churchville PB; Peggy Grayson, Town of Stafford/GLOW SW; Thomas J. Hryvniak, Interested Citizen/Volunteer; Peter Lent, Interested Citizen; Tucker Kautz, Monroe County SWCD; Brian Ostling, Chili DPW; Fran Reese, Barton n Loguidice; Tim Ruffin, Village of Bergen; Tom Ryther, Genesee Land Trust, Brookdale President; Brian Slack, G/FLRPC; George Squires, Genesee County SWCD; Lyle Warren, Churchville ZBA

Guest: ; Jonathan A. Ignatowski, St. Lawrence University

Introductions were made and the June 28, 2011 meeting minutes were approved with correction on second paragraph under Watershed Planning Progress to read, "A method for local law assessment on the watershed will be developed by the end of the summer.

Watershed Planning Progress: Summary of Responsiveness chapters have been completed with 150 comments on document by interested parties and consultant. Revisions should go smoothly with the methodology for assessing local laws having eight areas of primary concern. A forum or roundtable meeting with municipal officials is being considered. Specific recommendations are within categories. Brian and the consultant are meeting to discuss SUNY Brockport's analyses.

Mellissa Winslow Presentation Discussion: Brian wants to incorporate the findings to the Management Plan as the analysis has great information on the topic. There is stress on the macroinvertebrates with the lack of rain being experienced. Tim said Bergen Sewage treatment plant now has the school on line. Peter will follow up on sampling locations. The group wishes to know when the data can be provided to the committee. It also wishes to invite Mellissa back to the committee and expand her powerpoint presentation , perhaps linking the video with audio.

Events:

Past: July 3, Chili Fest – talked to 12-15 people and distributed maps.
Future: July 28, Mill Street Landfill
July 30, Bergen Heritage Festival
August 20, Oatka Creek, Scottsville
August 20-21, Churchville County Fair _ Lyle to handle

Banner/Signs: Rochelle and George are to apply for funds to cover the \$60 cost from the RC&D Council.

Black Creek Trail Feasibility Study: Brian and Lyle reported that it is to be funded by the Genesee Transportation Council using federally funded transportation dollars. Original study outlined priority trails. This study will have private engineers and a consultant . They will go through the alternatives with pros and cons, and significant challenges. Private land ownership is the biggest hurdle with the trail passing through the Town of Chili, Town of Riga and the Village of Churchville. RFPs are out. It will be completed in an incremental fashion and advocates need to be active and supportive. Easements will be needed and should be considered when Planning Boards and/or municipalities are reviewing project.

Appointment of Nominating Committee: Purpose to consider people interested in being officers. Ask Larry if he is interested in continuing on as President. Tom and Peter have consented to act as the committee. Anyone interested in becoming an officer please contact Lyle. The Nominating committee is not excluded from holding office per the bylaws.

Next Meeting: Genesee County Park, Interpretive Center, August 29 at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

PS: Jonathan Ignatowski from Chili and attending St. Lawrence University reported on his project studying Chili's Wetland Resources. He is using Mellon dollars and gaining interest by talking with folks already invested in the wetlands – "one foot in the swamp, one foot on land." His study looks at the uses of the wetland resource through photos, talking with hunters and, attributing the human value with other factors. There are different perspectives and voices and his project facilitates a two-way communication. He can be reached at Jonignatowski.wordpress.com