

Black Creek Watershed Coalition
Minutes from Annual Meeting / Joint Meeting with OCWC
August 29, 2011

Location: Genesee County Park and Forest

Attendance: Roberta Ames, Churchville PB; Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning (*scribe*); Dorothy Borgus, Chili resident; Peggy Grayson, Town of Stafford/GLOW SW; Thomas J. Hryvniak, Interested Citizen/Volunteer; Peter Lent, Interested Citizen; Brian Ostling, Chili DPW; Chuck Rettig, Chili Resident, Tom Ryther, Genesee Land Trust, Brookdale Preserve; Brian Slack, G/FLRPC; Judy Spring and George Squires (*facilitator*), Genesee County SWCD; Pat Tindale, Chili Conservation Board; and Larry VerWeire (*Chair*), Riga resident.

OCWC: Lisa Compton, Bill Gick, Town of Bethany; Robert Kelly, Maureen Leupold, GCC, Wheatland resident;

Action items are underlined.

Introductions were made, roles were assigned, and July 28 meeting minutes were corrected and approved

Election of officers. Peter Lent and Tom Ryther formed the nominating committee. They nominated Larry VerWeire as Chairman and Dorothy as Vice Chair. Secretary and Treasurer Positions weren't filled in the past and won't be filled this year, either. No one at the meeting volunteered for the positions. Larry and Dorothy were unanimously approved.

Watershed Planning Progress: Brian has incorporated almost all of the comments and provided the PAC with a thorough summary of his responses. The current draft of the Black Creek Watershed characterization is at www.gflrpc.org/Publications/BlackOatka/Characterization/BlackCreekWatershed/index.htm

Brian is meeting with Joe Makarewicz about nonpoint sources of pollution in the watersheds next week.

Brian discussed working with The Nature Conservancy and their interest in coordinating with the watershed groups with respect to making land use decisions in the Active River Area. The Active River Area is roughly the 100-year floodplain, but is based on different parameters and so more accurately reflects the most important part of the stream corridor to protect.

Brian, George and Mellissa Winslow are trying to sort out USDA crop cover data vs. land cover data. Brian will decide which one is best to use for the purposes of the watershed plans.

The Center for Watershed Protection's Eight Tools Audit for assessing local laws was discussed. Brian will cut it down to a more manageable size for this project (28 municipalities!). **Brian will send a PDF of the audit form as well as a link to the website to George.**

The next joint PAC meeting will be at the end of the month. Brian will be in touch with the PACs.

Banner/Signs: The RC&D Council approved \$60 for the BCWC banner. We want 6-foot banner. Need to get this done before \$60 is no longer available to us! **Rochelle will talk to Tim.**

Other: Peggy told the group about the Black Creek Wildlife Station, Inc. (www.bcwildlifestation.com). The BCWC might want to think about ways to collaborate with them.

Joint meeting of BCWC and OCWC

Freshwater Future: BCWC decided not to go for grant because of requirements that go with the grant (including attending a Climate Symposium in Michigan and participating in Walk, Paddle, and Roll, a fundraiser).

International Coastal Cleanup Day, Saturday, 9/17

Oatka Creek Park, 9-1, meet at pavilion

Genesee Gorge

Next BCWC meeting: Riga, September 28. Larry will look into a meeting room and let George know.