

BLACK CREEK WATERSHED COALITION
Meeting Notes: August 27, 2012
Genesee County Park and Forest

Action items are underlined.

Attendance: George Squires & Judy Spring, Genesee County SWCD; Peter Lent, interested citizen and Chair, Oatka Creek Watershed Committee; Peggy Grayson, Town of Stafford, GLOW; Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning; Roberta (Birdie) Ames, Village of Churchville Planning Board; Lyle Warren, Village of Churchville ZBA; Dorothy Borgus (Chili resident); Pat Tindale, Chili Conservation Board; Larry VerWeire, Riga resident; David Lindsay and Brian Ostling, Town of Chili; David Zorn and Tom Kicior, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council.

A wonderful dinner was enjoyed by all! Thanks for the pizza, George! And Peggy and Birdie and, um, the other person, for the salads. And for the chips and the drinks. And to Dorothy for those delicious chocolate chip cookies. And to whoever I forgot for whatever I forgot!

Roles: Meeting manager & Timekeeper = Larry VerWeire; Scribe = Rochelle Bell

Changes to agenda: #3 and #4 were moved up above #2. Rochelle asked that #6.5 – Grants for Black Creek Map Guide, and #6.75 – Black Creek Corridor Feasibility Study be added to the agenda..

Review and approval of minutes: No changes

Watershed Planning: Tom Kicior (pronounced “KEY-see-or”) summarized his work to date on the watershed’s federal, state and local municipal (county, town and village) regulatory environment. The work involves an update of the 2006 regulatory environment summary and takes it a step further by offering specific suggestions and model ordinances. Tom will let us know when the draft assessment of local laws and practices is ready for review. We are encouraged to make additions especially to the local practices if need be. There was good discussion about riparian corridors – they will likely be a priority in the recommendations. We talked about Watercourse EPODS (Environmental Protection Overlay Districts). And we talked about enforcement of laws and regulations.

The BCWC recognized the struggle to and importance of getting communications about the project to appropriate staff and board members and the need to follow up with municipalities about implementation and including recommendations from the Watershed Plan in Comprehensive Plan Updates. The Coalition was impressed with Tom’s work.

The Watershed Plan may make municipalities in the watershed competitive for NYS Dept. of State LWRP (Local Waterfront Revitalization Plans) grant money, which can be used for municipal code updates.

Peter will e-mail George the link to G/FL’s 2006 assessment to forward to the BCWC (n.b. Peter, please advise us about what specifically to look at!)

Town of Chili Zoning Law Revision: David Lindsay described the Town of Chili’s new effort to update their zoning codes. There is a committee formed of David (Commissioner of Public Works), David Dunning (Supervisor), the Planning Board Chairman and the attorney to the Planning Board. They are working with the Monroe County Stormwater Coalition and Caroline Myers. Dave Zorn and Tom Kicior described how G/FL has funding from DEC to work with municipalities on Green Infrastructure laws, and

could assist individual watershed municipalities with this type of work. Ron Brand is also working with the Town on the project on an as-needed basis.

David Lindsay and Tom Kicior will be in touch so that both projects benefit from their synergy.

Election of Officers: Birdie moved that Larry remain the Chairman of the BCWC and that Dorothy remain Deputy Chair. Pat seconded the motion. All agreed that Larry and Dorothy are excellent meeting managers and unanimously approved the motion. Congratulations, and Thank You, Larry and Dorothy.

Banner: The banner looks great! **George will send his picture of the display table with the banner at the Churchville Country Fair to Rochelle. Pat will send a copy of the picture to Caitlin, who designed our logo.**

Rochelle submitted the receipt for the banner to Carol Culhane, President of the Lake Plains Resource Conservation & Development District (RC&D). The RC&D paid for the BCWC's website for 2012, and there is every reason to believe the RC&D will pay the bill for the banner. The RC&D will meet in September and make a decision at that meeting. If, for some reason, the RC&D does not pay Rochelle will pay the bill and we'll pass the hat at the next meeting to reimburse her.

Past events: The BCWC had a presence at the Mill Seat Landfill Open House on July 26 (thank you George, Larry, Birdie and Peggy!) and Churchville Country Fair, August 18 & 19 (Larry, Lyle, Peggy, Birdie, George). We need a pad of paper and pencils in the event box! There was a steady flow of visitors to the Black Creek table at the events. The banner helped attract people to the table. There is often one person, usually visiting toward the end of the event, who is VERY INTERESTED in the BCWC.

Grants for Black Creek Map Guide: George has allocated a portion of Genesee County's Finger Lake-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliances money to their three watershed groups for printing their Map Guides. This amounts to \$2,000 per watershed. We'd like to raise about \$1,500 more to benefit from "economies of scale in printing. **Peggy will talk to Suzanne Dunn from Wegmans corporate office about support. Rochelle will look into grant opportunities at L.L.Bean, Tom's of Maine and Burt's Bees. At the next event we have a display table we could collect money to go toward printing.**

Black Creek Corridor Trail Feasibility Study: There are about six people on the committee (Supervisor Dunning, Churchville's Mayor Nancy Steedman, Bob Torzynski from GTC, David Lindsay, Pat Tindale, Lyle Warren and Bob Ottley). County Parks does not attend. The consultant is Bergmann. There have been two steering committee meetings and one Public Information meeting. Private property owners are not interested in having a trail go through their property. BCWC members who are on the Feasibility Study team will update the BCWC monthly with project developments.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 24, Riga. **(Larry will confirm location with George).**

NOTE THAT THIS IS A NEW MEETING DATE. IT WAS CHANGED FROM THE SCHEDULE PUBLISHED IN JANUARY 2012.