

BLACK CREEK WATERSHED COALITION
Meeting Notes: November 27, 2012
Village of Bergen

Action items are underlined.

ATTENDANCE: George Squires, Genesee County SWCD; Peggy Grayson, Town of Stafford, GLOW; Rochelle Bell, Monroe County Planning; Chuck Rettig, Chili Resident; Peter Lent, Oatka Creek Watershed Committee and interested citizen; Jim Zollweg, SUNY Brockport (on Sabbatical at Cornell); Fran Reese, Chili Resident.

ROLES: Meeting manager & Timekeeper = George Squires; Scribe = Rochelle Bell

MINUTES were reviewed and approved. **George will send Rochelle latest version. Rochelle will ask Carol to post to website.**

MAP GUIDE

Money

- BCWC was awarded \$500 from Wegmans for MapGuide printing. Thank you, Peggy, for making this happen!
- **Someone needs to reach out to Walmart ASAP.** The more money we can throw at the next printing the less expensive each copy will be.
- **NB: Rochelle and Fran will still work on the LL Bean application after the first of the year so we can print newsletter or brochure when the watershed plan is published.**

Printing

Monroe Litho has the original files and can make changes to the map. It's best if they do it because there won't be any changes with the color designations or layout. They can edit text side but they can only *add* things to map side. **Rochelle will check to see if this means they cannot remove text on the left hand side of the map side of the Map Guide.**

Changes

George told the group about First Light farm and Creamery in Bethany – they produce cow's milk and goat's milk artisanal cheeses. They offer cheese-making workshops, too. www.first-light-farm.com. **George will get their permission to add them to the MapGuide.**

Fran suggested we proactively reach out to coalition members from each municipality in the watershed and ask them to look at the details of the Map Guide in their municipality. **Rochelle will work on that.**

Possible changes to Map Guide discussed to date:

- Remove "camping" from Trestle Park description.
- Add note to map pointing the direction and distance to the Erie Canal.
- Add First Light Farm location

Everyone: review the Map Guide for necessary changes or possible additions. We hope to get the revisions to the printer in early February.

SMALL CARD: revisions to the small card were discussed. 1/3 page card and 1/2 page card sizes were compared – 1/2 page size is preferred but the header on the 1/3 page example was preferred. **George S. will revised document and then send it to Fran for review and he will bring updated version to the next meeting.** Chuck suggested that when this is done we put it on our website.

WATERSHED PLANNING: Nothing new to report from G/FL. The Coalition is concerned about the project and worries about its timeframe. Rochelle will look into it. Oatka Creek has not gotten their local law review – Peter will call Tom Kicior about it.

Research in the watershed was discussed. The research includes chemical, biological and SWAT modeling work. Jim Zollweg talked about a project he has embarked on with Cornell professors – they are looking at the trophic state of the stream by measuring the chlorophyll in the stream by measuring the COLOR of the stream. There was a long discussion about all of the research in the watershed done by SUNY Brockport (2 departments), Cornell (2 departments), DEC (Albany), CEI and G/FL & EcoLogic (Watershed Plan) and how it does or does not overlap or inform other efforts. The research is largely focused on quantifying P and N concentrations for a TMDL.

George talked about how important the Black Creek Watershed Coalition is to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. It helps them explain their work and put their work in context. It also helps them get grants. The new monitoring data is very helpful, especially since there was next to no data upstream of Monroe County before five years ago. The data helps the SWCDs quantify what's happening in the watershed.

The impact of the yogurt industry's acid whey injection was discussed. Fran has seen the negative results of injecting acid whey into fields without buffering the soil.

SIERRA CLUB CANOE AND KAYAK TRIP: George brought pictures – a very nice reminder of how beautiful the autumn is and what a treasure Black Creek is.

PICK UP THE PARKS, April 13, 2013 – Ryan Loysen, MC Parks, is looking for partners, sponsors and supporters for the event. There is a meeting on December 14. Maureen is leading the Oatka Creek Park cleanup – they might do the International Coastal Cleanup in the fall instead of PUTP. Is Dorothy or any other BCWC member interested in leading a cleanup in Black Creek Park?

BLACK CREEK TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY Open House, Thursday, Nov. 29, 7-9 pm, Churchville/Chili Middle School. George will email announcement to BCWC.

LAND CARE AND PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES BROCHURE, Part of DEC's "Be Green Great Lakes Project" (www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/76234.html). Rochelle ordered 200 copies - 100 copies are for Oatka Creek Watershed committee. Rochelle will ask Carol to post brochure to website.

2013 MEETING CALENDAR: George will narrow down calendar and will bring proposed schedule to December meeting for approval.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 13. Village of Churchville? George will check. {n.b. moved to Chili}

PARKING LOT:

- Churchville-Chili Trail
- Chili Zoning Code
- IMA expires 12/31/13
- Update list of municipal representatives in early 2013
- Citizen Science in the Genesee