

Black Creek Watershed Coalition

Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2018

Location: Village of Churchville Meeting Room, 23 East Buffalo Street, Churchville, NY

Attendance: Dorothy Borgus, Chili Resident; Brian Ostling, Chili DPW; George Squires, Byron Planning Board; Julie Michalko, Chair, Village of Churchville Planning Board; Kevin Donovan, Deputy Mayor, Village of Bergen; Chris Flaherty, Churchville Zoning Board; Lyle Warren, Village of Churchville; Steve Brew, Monroe County Legislature; Josh LaFountian, Monroe Co. SWCD; Peter Lent, OCWC Chairman.

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM by Chairman, Dorothy Borgus

Meeting minutes of January 25, 2018 meeting were **approved as written**.

IMA Update

George said from email communications it appears the IMA was approved by the Monroe County Legislature for the County Executive's signature at their December 12, 2017 meeting. Steve Brew confirmed this. Communication with Andy Sansone at Monroe County DES indicates he is awaiting the signed agreement from Genesee County before forwarding to the County Executive. George said his last communication with Genesee County SWCD indicated the Board was waiting for Monroe County to sign before they would move it to the County Legislature Public Service Committee. **The group asked George to coordinate communication between Molly Cassatt and Andy Sansone to move the process forward.** Steve Brew suggested a brief statement describing the purpose of the document for legislators might be helpful.

Joint watershed sub- committee

There was discussion about the municipal credits offered at the Municipal Workshop in October. Dorothy said she had heard that Chili did not allow the credit. There was further discussion about the (notification) process for those people eligible for the credits. Pete Lent clarified that Felipe Oltramari, Genesee County Planning Director had sent notifications to all town clerks in Genesee County (only) who had people attending. Pete said he has sent Felipe email addresses for town clerks in the other counties that had people in attendance. Dorothy expressed concern that even though notifications were yet to go out once they are received Chili may still not allow the credit since it was not pre-approved.

There was further discussion about a follow-up meeting of the sub-committee. Pete said he is still working on a letter to municipalities and a pdf of the presentation. When completed he will send it out to municipalities. He will work on scheduling a meeting soon.

Citizen water quality monitoring

George had an email from Pat Tindale about the possibility of monitoring for the impact of road salt. She indicated a free Chloride test kit was available from the Isaak Walton League of America. **It was the consensus of the group that Pat should order the test kit.**

Dorothy mentioned she had contacted George Thomas regarding the monitoring data being collected and who was actually compiling the data. It appears RIT Professor Elizabeth DiCesare (and perhaps Bill Hallahan in her absence) is coordinating data management.

G/FLRPC mentoring program

Brian reported a conference call took place (using Skype) with Ashland, Wisconsin and two other participating communities. Brian was unsuccessful in making the connection. He will work out the mechanics of the process with Jayme Breschard-Thomann at G/FLRPC.

Federal Budget Cuts

There was discussion about proposed federal budget cuts particularly those affecting the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding. **Lyle Warren made a motion that our Chair Dorothy Borgus sign a letter to our local federal government representatives expressing our concern and opposing sending cuts to the GLRI. There was a second by Steve Brew and the motion was approved.**

Genesee RiverWatch upcoming events

George distributed information on two upcoming events sponsored by Genesee RiverWatch. A Streambank Restoration Workshop will be held on March 28 at the Mt. Morris Dam Visitors Center. The fifth annual Genesee River Basin Summit will be held on March 24 in the Riverside Room at the Port of Rochester.

Grants – Willowbank Drive

Josh discussed the timeline for the Willowbank Drive project. He said most of the first year (2018) will involve project design. Construction activity will most likely begin in the Spring of 2019. A design workshop will be held this year in the Village of Churchville. A follow-up meeting with residents is also planned for this spring. Grant funding was \$409,000. The grant will run through fall 2021.

Steve Brew asked about the ownership of the Churchville Dam. (NOTE: According to the National Inventory of Dams – CHURCHVILLE DAM; OWNER: MONROE COUNTY; BUILT: 1911)

Steve Brew also discussed the fact that he noticed a lot of plastic bags collecting along fences near the creek in Churchville. He mentioned Governor Cuomo's proposed ban on single-use plastic shopping bags. He asked if the Coalition would consider supporting this. He mentioned he would send more details to Dorothy to facilitate drafting a letter. **Julie Michalko made a motion that Dorothy sign a support letter. Steve Brew seconded the motion and it was approved.**

Steve Brew also mentioned Monroe County has a capital improvement project for Churchville Park scheduled for this year.

Next Meetings

Our next meeting will be on March 29, 2018 @ 5:30 pm –Chili Highway Department, 200 Beaver Road, Chili, NY.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
George Squires, Secretary

www.blackcreekwatershed.org