

MINUTES
CONEWANGO CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING
March 8, 2011

PRESENT:

Directors: Liz Dropp, Dick Burlingame, John Gallagher, Chuck Conroe, Steve Kimball, and Chris Humphrey
Watershed Specialist: Jean Gomory
Members: Kim Sherwood Cooperators: JoAnn Curtis Technical Specialist: Kylie Maland

Dick opened the meeting at 9:05 am at the Sewer District with a quorum.

MINUTES:

9:08 JoAnn and Kylie arrived.

Several corrections were made to the minutes and Chris will resend. John G made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, and Liz seconded. All were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Liz presented her report through February 28, 2011. There was no new business in any of the accounts. Interest on the two savings accounts was posted. The ending balance is \$8,359.89. Chris made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report subject to audit. John G seconded. All were in favor. Today's audit is postponed awaiting a new date.

CORRESPONDENCE: Liz submitted a letter of thanks from WCCD for the donation to their building project. Another letter from WCCD asked for a donation to the Envirothon. Jean shared that she is submitting for a Community Foundation grant in WCCD's behalf to help with costs on this but that it needs to be from the CCWA as a non-profit organization. Liz offered to write it. John G made a motion to sponsor the application for the grant to help with funding for the Envirothon. Chris seconded. All were in favor. Chris made a motion to donate \$50 to each of the three county Envirothons. Liz seconded. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Water Trail – John G reported that their minutes about the ribbon Cutting Ceremony are being sent to all. He contacted Ralphie's for a party after. They enthusiastically accepted and also donated \$100 to the event as a Sponsor. They suggested we hand out tokens during the event to encourage people to come after. John visited Piper at Alleghany Outfitters. She wants to participate but doesn't know in what way as yet.

9:26 Steve arrived.

John is considering a raffle again. He found a kayak in Erie for \$199. Tickets could be sold at the event but then the drawing could be held at the member picnic. We will need raffle tickets. Liz is applying for a convening grant for help with funding the event. John G will be speaking with COT on the radio station tomorrow to kick off publicity. He also asked Vicky for help with contacting the politicians. Chris made a motion authorizing John G to buy a kayak and to incur other expenses as needed. Liz seconded. All were in favor.

- Rainbarrel Fundraiser – Jean reported that the WCCD newsletter advertised the sale. Her bid packet is almost done. Liz is getting pricing for barrels.

UPDATES:

- Conflict of Interest Policy – John has not yet heard from Mr. Slagle.
- CAP Grant – Kylie showed us preliminary maps. So far they have overviews of the watershed, and maps broken down into subwatersheds. They have developed a general land use map like the Rapid Watershed Assessment maps. They plotted areas of greater ag use, urban areas, forest and wetlands, and impairments provided by state agencies.
- Potential Volunteer Initiatives – John discussed the suggestions that Chuck drew up keying in on water quality monitoring. He has asked Kylie how she would fit this in with her work, and asked if she could talk with Becky Nystrom at JCC who has students who would do the monitoring. We then discussed aspects of monitoring and what type of project would be beneficial such as phosphate in streams due to the upcoming TMDL, project places to support a project for a 2% bedtax project, or possibly an erosion site.

- Membership – New member Vicky has offered to help with revamping the membership drive.
- Road Adoption – John and Liz approached Vicky with the idea.
- CC Greenway Committee – John shared that this new group has had its first meeting. They formed a questionnaire to be posted on survey monkey.
- CC Planning Committee – John sent in his resume for the position and received a letter from Greg Edwards saying they are in the process of deciding.
- CLMC Membership – Our acceptance to this group is at the County Legislature for a decision.
- 2% Bedtax project – the applications have just been opened. They must be submitted by June 1st. We will discuss further at the next meeting.
- NRCS Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CPPI) - JoAnn shared that she and Rob Halboun (NRCS) have submitted a grant for 15,000 feet of streambank improvement within the Conewango. They are targeting Dewittville on the north end of Chautauqua Lake, Clear Creek in Ellington, and Frew Run in Frewsburg.
- Climate Solutions Grant – Seneca Trail RCD was awarded a grant to participate in ‘Climate Solutions University’. Under this 11-month program, an ‘Adaptation Action Plan’ will be developed outlining how Chautauqua County could prepare for changes in forested settings, and subsequent change to water resources. While the program focuses on climate as the agent of change, in reality the process could be adapted to change from any process (e.g. Emerald Ash Borer, suburban sprawl, etc.). Five core team members have begun meeting. They are will be forming a larger team to develop the Action Plan.
- RC&D Funding – Liz shared that RC&D funding is threatened to be reduced. She asked that we send a letter to Congress for PA, and NY. John G made a motion in favor of this proposal. Chris seconded. All were in favor. Liz will draft the letter and send to everyone for approval.

The next meeting was scheduled for April 12th at 9:00am at the Sewer District in Celoron. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chris and seconded by Liz at 10:33. All were in favor. Meeting closed.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Humphrey