

MINUTES
CONEWANGO CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING
January 12, 2010

PRESENT:

Directors: Liz Dropp, Dan Steward, Tom Osborne, Steve Kimball, Dick Burlingame, Larry Bourne and Chris Humphrey.

Watershed Curator: Kim Sherwood

Watershed Specialist: Jean Gomory

Cooperators: JoAnne Kurtis

Member: Annette Strauser

Dan opened the meeting at the South & Center Sewer District, Celoron, at 9:10am with a quorum.

MINUTES: Corrections to December's minutes: Liz said the Redwood Creek Grant is awarding 8 prizes for \$10,000 each. Kim said under Updates, New business, it should read 'on the eastern boundary of Frewsburg Elementary school.' Tom made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Liz seconded. All were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Liz reported there was no activity other than interest. The ending checking balance is \$1,578.90, the Business Escrow Savings at \$1,347.42, and the Regular Business Savings is at \$3602.42. Chris made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report subject to audit. Steve seconded. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Larry arrived at 9:15.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman – Chris nominated Dan. There were no other nominations. Steve made a motion to have the secretary cast one ballot and Larry seconded. Chris voted aye.

Treasurer – Chris nominated Liz and Larry seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Steve made a motion to have the secretary cast one ballot and Larry seconded. Chris voted aye.

Secretary – Larry nominated Chris and Liz seconded. There were no other nominations. Liz made a motion to have the secretary cast one ballot and Larry seconded. Chris voted aye.

Vice-Chair – Chris nominated Brian. Liz nominated Tom. After discussion Tom accepted the nomination and Chris withdrew her nomination. Steve made a motion to have the secretary cast one ballot and Larry seconded. Chris voted aye.

UPDATES:

- Curator's report – Kim gave highlights of his report while discussing ORSANCO's report to the CCWQTF about interstate water quality trading in the Ohio River Basin and how it might put Western NY in a favorable position in the future. He also highlighted the Health Department's news that there are new provisions in the Chautauqua County Sanitary Code that will in most cases require that properties with dwellings must have water and sewer surveys and testing prior to transfer in ownership.
- Conewango Creek at Brown Road – nothing new.
- Stream Process Flowchart – nothing new.
- Warren County Stormwater Plan – nothing new

- Warren County Hazard Mitigation Plan – Jean reported the draft came out in December with an open comment period through Friday, January 15th. Tom made a motion to allow Liz and Chris to submit any comments they feel necessary. Dick seconded. All were in favor.
- Conewango Water Trail – Tom has received letters of support from all the surrounding Townships now. He is still waiting on a decision from Glade Township about using some of their property for a launch site. Tom has a meeting scheduled with Chautauqua County Parks and Recreation on January 21st at 7:00pm to speak with them about linking the Marden Cobb Waterway Trail with the Conewango. He asked to have a New York board member accompany him and Liz. Kim offered. Liz said Pepsi is giving grants and one of the categories is the environment. She will look into it. Tom said that Trout Unlimited’s venture to organize a youth Fishing Club has fallen by the wayside as the interested local person has been promoted.
- Website – Liz gave the group a tour of our website. She invited all to submit articles for posting.
- NW Pa Nutrient Reduction Project – JoAnn reported that she has a meeting planned on the 20th with the coordinator for the Headwaters RC&D Council.
- Capacity Building Grant – Liz reported that 30 groups were invited to apply for the grant of which 11 did, and we were 1 of 3 chosen for the award. The grant will provide \$25,000 worth of capacity building consultation – training and professional assistance to increase our member recruitment and involvement.
- Rainbarrel project – Liz is looking for pricing on the rainbarrels and is going to give Betsy Hite a call to coordinate with her efforts.
- Other – Liz submitted 2 invoices for reimbursement to her for monies spent on Kiosk renovations and membership mailing. Larry made a motion to reimburse her with Chris seconding. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mississippi River Conservation Initiative Grant Program – JoAnn said that USDA NRCS is funding a nutrient reduction conservation program in targeted sub-watersheds along the Mississippi River. She questioned why New York and Pennsylvania were excluded. She said there is a similar Ohio River program for stream-bank remediation just coming out which may explain why we were excluded. She will watch.
- RCAP – The group discussed last month’s request by Jeff Allio and felt there were concerns about the sensitivity of collecting information about septic systems on private land, and sharing that data, as well as the question of funding mechanisms. The Board asked the secretary to write a letter to Jeff stating that while we recognize the problem, we would like more information about past successes before we offer support.
- Raingarden – Jean and Liz want to install another raingarden and conduct two educational sessions – one for professional landscapers and technicians, and the other for the general public. They suggest Beaty Park. Jean is applying for grants.

The next meeting is set for Tuesday, February 9th at 9:00 am at the Sewer District in Celoron.

Larry made a motion to adjourn. Chris seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 10:58am.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Humphrey