

## Spring Creek Coalition Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Spring Creek Coalition (SCC) was held on October 10, 2019, at the Schusterman-Benson Library, Tulsa OK. Present were: Travis Fite, Jessica Spencer, Karen Harris, George Kamp, Beth Rooney, Angela Brazeal, Jim McCoy, and Jennifer Donnelly. The meeting was called to order by Travis Fite at 6:15 pm. A quorum was present.

Newsletters were prepared for mailing during discussions at the beginning of the meeting. Beth noted that the eNewsletter has been prepared using Mailchimp, an email management system, for the first time. A note was added to all our mailed newsletters telling recipients that we would no longer be sending newsletters by mail starting in 2020, and asking them to send us their email addresses. Beth said she hopes we can continue to print and mail from our eNewsletter for a handful of members who do not have email.

Time was spent in one executive session.

After discussion, a motion was made by Beth Rooney to continue the lawsuit and to take on the full expense / passed.

A discussion was held about the lawsuit expenses and possibilities for assistance from the Waterkeeper Alliance as in help with a GIS System. We discussed that we have our own GIS system and just need to input data. Karen Harris mentioned her confidence in the work of Dr. Burton Fisher with Lithochimia, and Jim McCoy is going to contact him.

The current treasury for funds raised is \$50,000 with \$45,000 remaining after expenses.

Beth talked with Ed Fite at the STIR annual meeting, and he mentioned something about some help from the GRDA. Beth asked the board for their thoughts on her setting up a lunch meeting with GRDA personnel. Board concurred.

Calendars are not here, but will be in soon.

A speaker for our annual meeting which is held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in January: Beth Rooney suggested having the same speaker that STIR had at their annual meeting. He spoke about the hog farm removal from the Buffalo River watershed and how it was done by grassroots efforts. Board consensus was that Beth should pursue this speaker.

Spring Creek Coalition is taking a stance against the gravel mine located near Terrisita, Oklahoma on Double Spring Creek. Beth asked the Board's forgiveness for not getting their consensus before sending out a call for action to our mailing list.

The DARP chicken processing facility takeover by Cooks Venture in Cherokee County was discussed briefly. The concern is that this may lead to the revitalization of shuttered poultry houses located right next to Spring Creek such as those in the Teresita area. Cooks Venture specializes in "pasture raised heirloom chickens" (from their website <https://cooksventure.com/>).

Twenty-seven 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Lowrey school (one of our watershed schools) had a wonderful day on the creek September 27 with Blue Thumb.

Plans for clean-up day were discussed for November 2, at Kings curve, cave spring and Coopers Bridge

Karen Harris reported on a special meeting held by David Martinez to show board members how to access information about water quality, watershed plans, and stream data from the following websites:

Oklahoma Conservation Commission  
Ok Department of Environmental Quality  
Oklahoma Water Resources Board

EPA

Karen Harris, Jennifer Owen, Beth Rooney and Travis Fite attended this meeting.

Karen Harris reported (for David Martinez) that the Oklahoma Conservation Commission (OCC) has asked SCC to come up with the concerns we are facing in the watershed in preparation for our Watershed Plan. We came up with the following concerns during a brain storming session: nutrient load, sediment load, aesthetics, road maintenance, gravel mining, bank erosion, cattle in the creek, water removal and trash and lawlessness at Corps of Engineer sites at King's Curve and Cooper's Bridge. Karen will document our input and send to the board for more.

We were also asked by OCC for ideas on how to get input from other landowner members. One idea was to distribute a poll to our mailing list as we did some years back. We were short of time and did not discuss further.

George Kamp moved that we approve last month's minutes / passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by Angela Brazeal