

Spring Creek Coalition September Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm September 10th by President Beth Rooney.

Present were as follows: Angela Brazeal, Beth Rooney, Martha Blackburn, Karen Harris, George Kamp, James McCoy, Jennifer Donnelly, David Martinez, Jennifer Owen and Bill Chambers

MOTION: George Kamp moved to enter into executive session, seconded by Angela Brazeal
PASSED

MOTION: Martha Blackburn moved to close executive session, seconded by Karen Harris
PASSED

MOTION: Martha Blackburn moved to accept August minutes, seconded by Bill Chambers
PASSED

The treasurer's report, presented by James McCoy, was accepted for filing. \$26,786.57 was the balance as of 9/7/2020. Significant income for the month was a \$5,000 donation; significant expense: \$1,050 water monitoring analysis fees.

Jennifer Donnelly and Beth Rooney worked together to convert our PayPal account from a business to charity status. This reduces the % that PayPal takes. Thanks to Jennifer for noticing this and taking it on. Will save us \$\$.

Committee Reports

Fundraising: Pam Kingfisher is going to write a script for fundraising. Fundraising ideas on the table are: A Hog Shoot with Bill Chambers, movie night in the field with Angela Brazeal, Cedar Crest event with James McCoy and Martha Blackburn, applying for grants (Kingfisher).

GIS Presentation:

David Martinez gave a demo of our GIS (Geographical Information System). He talked about how individuals can report their own data to add to the system and types of data that could be added such as Blue Thumb test data, bird densities, churches and schools.

Beth Rooney mentioned that our GIS system can be very useful for our water monitoring efforts. By inputting data on land use (examples: where poultry litter is being applied, septic systems, cattle grazing) we can use the GIS to identify potential causes of problems we are seeing such as high bacteria counts. David hopes to be able to present a second GIS demo at our next board meeting that will show the GIS system being used by our lawyers that includes data on poultry houses and litter application.

Water Monitoring

Beth Rooney presented an overview of what the Water Monitoring team is doing. She showed all the data available on our Google drive including a map of monitoring stations, photos of each site, our monitoring protocol standards manual, and monitoring results. She showed us the findings on bacteria, E. coli and enterococcus, which show very high numbers in our two upstream sites.

Jennifer Owen is concerned about finding all of the possible causes including septic systems and chicken complexes. She also suggested to test after a rain event and asked about habitat assessment protocol. The next collection date will be Thursday, September 24.

Other

Calendars are ready to go to the printers.

OWRB Webinar on Changes for Phosphorous Monitoring on the Illinois River; George Kamp gave an overview of the webinar. There were concerns expressed about no monitoring being done during high flow events which protects non-point polluters. This webinar will be shown twice more, the last being Tuesday, Oct 6, 7pm.

Conflict of Interest Document: George Kamp gave an update on the conflict of interest document he is looking into. He has researched potential templates on the Waterkeeper Alliance library.

MOTION: Angela Brazeal moved to adjourn, seconded by Bill Chambers
PASSED