

Spring Creek Coalition Board Meeting

Minutes - February 09, 2023

Present were members Beth Rooney, Bill Chambers, Chris Beckwith, David Martinez, Karen Harris, Karen White, Mike Appel, Sandy Whitekiller, and Angela Brazeal. Absent was Travis Fite

1. Lawsuit Update:

Hearing date: Thursday, March 02, 1:30pm, Jay, OK

Members encouraged to attend to show support

2. A motion was made by Bill Chambers and seconded to approve both December 2022 & January 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes without corrections. Motion passed.

3. Beth Rooney initiated a change in board member officers prior to the meeting. A motion made (by unknown) & seconded to approve of officers for 2023 as follows:

- a. President – Bill Chambers
- b. VP – Mike Appel
- c. Treasurer – Beth Rooney with assistance from Jim McCoy/Deborah Engles
- d. Secretary – Karen White; backup Secretary, Karen Harris

Committee Reports/Old Business

4. Beth Rooney shared the Treasurer's Report to include itemized income sources and expenses with beginning and ending balances for last year and January of 2023. The report was accepted for filing.

5. Beth explained that the SCC must file federal income tax form 990-ez again this year rather than an e-postcard because average income for the past 3 years exceeded \$50,000.

6. Before and after photographs of the refurbished Watershed sign on highway 82 were shared. Refurbishing was completed by Charles Drury, Donna and granddaughter, Haylee

7. A historic review of the Annual Meetings since 2011 was shared with number in attendance, location, special topic, etc. of each meeting presented. The 2023 meeting provided an opportunity for members to participate in small group discussions to share concerns regarding one of the three sections of the creek: upper, middle or lower.

8. Members discussed goals for 2023:

- a. Goals that arose from the group discussions at the annual meeting to be included consist of:
 - i. identify the sources of e. coli infection and investigate funding sources to remediate
 - ii. educate and encourage land owners to protect riparian areas to reduce erosion
 - iii. It was felt that the poultry litter concern has been addressed for now by the Jan. 18, 2023 ruling by U.S. District Judge Gregory K. Frizzell against 11 poultry firms that operate about 1,900 active poultry houses within the Illinois River watershed.
 - iv. Other concerns are captured by goals from 2022 that the group agreed to carry over:
- b. Carry over goals from 2022 include
 - I. Newsletters, facebook, and an outing (botany at Saline Courthouse)
 - II. Hold - Fundraising - on hold
 - III. Drop - Issue with Lithochimeia - resolved
 - IV. OK Conservation Coalition (OCC) Assessment Plan

- V. Create master list of impacts and possible solutions
- VI. Drop - Develop 3-yr strategic plan
- VII. Continue water quality assessments and attempt to isolate sources of bacterial contamination
- VIII. Water quantity (?)- members discussed monitoring Peggs Water Company and progress of USGS aquifer research project
- IX. Strengthen relations with like-minded groups
- X. Drop – educate board members of bylaws as they are available online
- XI. Drop - improving relations with resident land owners
- XII. Sponsor field days at the creek for watershed schools
- XIII. Drop – GIS?

9. Other

- a. Next water monitoring date: Thursday, March 23, 9am at Country Store, Hwy 82
- b. Beth to speak at NSU Water Issues class, Wed, 3/8

Minutes prepared by Karen White, SCC Secretary