

## Spring Creek Coalition Board Meeting

Minutes – April 13, 2023

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

Meeting began at 6:02 pm

### 1. Lawsuit Update:

The motion to dismiss the lawsuit by the defendant (the state of Oklahoma) was denied. The case will go to court, perhaps as early as May or June.

2. A motion was made by Beth Rooney and seconded to approve the March 2023 meeting minutes with the corrections sent by Beth. The motion passed.

### Committee Reports/Old Business

#### 3. Treasurer's Report – B. Rooney:

- a. March beginning balance: \$41,240.91
- b. Credits from new memberships totally \$319.05
- c. Debits for water testing, including additional E. coli tests, totaling \$1,058.00
- d. Ending March balance: \$40,501.96

#### 4. Goal 1b – Community outing to Cherokee Nation Saline Courthouse Friday, May 5 -B. Rooney

- a. Arrive at 2:30 for meet & greet and self-guided tour
- b. 3:00 – 3:45 botany tour by Feather Smith

#### 5. Update on Securing a Meeting with Attorney General Gentner Drummond – B. Rooney

- a. Jim McCoy, a former SCC board member, has an acquaintance who knows AG Drummond who contacted Drummond on our behalf. Drummond recommend via email that we should request a meeting with his Environmental Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Lewis. A request to meet was sent a week ago. No reply has been received yet. B. Rooney will follow up.

#### 6. Goal 3b Water Quality - Isolate source of bacteria update – M. Appel

- a. The results of the E. Coli tests were confusing:
  - i. Levels were very high (> 1000) above the Oaks Lagoon
  - ii. Levels were low at the creek by Three Springs Farm, which is unusual
  - iii. Levels were expected to rise below the lagoon. Possible reasons for the unexpected results were discussed
- b. Will test again to confirm test results.

#### 7. Goal 3c Water Quality - Press Release Update – Rooney

- a. No event planned yet. May be best to wait until after the court decision.

#### 8. Goal 6a: Education event for cattle farmers update: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 6:00 – 7:30 PM – B. Chambers

- a. Education provided by The Nature Conservancy on ways to decrease use of fertilizers, stream management, erosion control, and care of riparian zones.
- b. Location is Northeast Tech in Kansas, OK.
- c. The Nature Conservancy requested SCC pay for 50% of the dinner cost (~\$500).
  - i. A motion was made by Beth Rooney and seconded to approve paying up to \$500 for the dinner. The motion passed. Bill Chambers volunteered to pay for any amount that exceeds \$500.
  - ii. Beth offered to apply for grant funding from the Kirkpatrick Foundation to obtain funds to cover the dinner cost.

#### 9. Goal 2a Watershed assessment - Review Master List of SC Impacts/Solutions – B. Rooney

- a. Beth reviewed problems and solutions with input from the group, including:
  - i. We may want to reference the Illinois River Flood Plan to glean ideas for solutions
  - ii. Mike Appel spent 5 hours picking up trash on a ½ mile stretch of highway 82A
    1. Cannot obtain “Adopt-a-highway” designation, as this is for state highways, not county roads
    2. The District 1 County Commissioner, Bobby “Cub” Whitewater was very supportive and agreed to personally pick up the trash bags from the road side
    3. Mike agreed to let others know the next time he picks up garbage so Beth can get the word out and others can assist in the clean-up effort.
    4. Mike asked that SCC purchase reflective vests for the safety of volunteers. Ten vests can be purchased for \$22. Agreed; Beth will order.

10. Open for Discussion and New Business

- a. Earth Day 4//20/23.
- b. Angela agreed to represent the SCC at the Tulsa celebration at the Guthrie Green with a banner, pamphlets, etc.

11. Mike Appell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm. Motion was seconded and passed.

Minutes prepared by Karen White, SCC Secretary