

# Raccoon Creek Partnership Board Meeting minutes (Fundraiser meeting minutes) February 24<sup>th</sup> 2016

## Fundraiser meeting 5:30pm

- Past successful fundraisers
  - Uncle Buck's Pig Roast and Paddle
    - Thin profit margin, other ideas would be favorable **We did make ~ \$1000 on this.**
  - Camps – **Personally I consider these educational and not a fundraiser. If we make enough at camp to cover the cost of camp and some of the Waterloo utilities (electric, insurance) then I think we are doing great!**
  - Kroger rewards **There are currently only 4 households registered...one is me. So, please register your card (need to re-enroll each April) and spread the word. This is an easy fundraiser.**
  - **We made \$500 on our last benefit at Jackie O's**
- Vance: Possible Tree ID event
  - Cody Hacker would be able to present and educate as well as Jim Downs
  - People could be given tree ID pamphlets and shown how to access various Apps on phones to ID trees
  - Vance will be meeting with Mark Rickey to discuss this event more
  - **It has been decided that this event would work best as an educational event and not a fundraiser**
- Lauren stated that she would like a calendar of RCP events to be readily available for the board and community, the AmeriCorps members will be producing this soon
- Dustin will be creating leaflets of upcoming events and taking them to the Gallia Tourism Expo on March 5<sup>th</sup>
- In the past RCP was represented at the Nelsonville Music Festival
  - This no longer occurs due to a change in regulations by the festival that have made it impractical for RCP to have a booth
  - Jessica will talk to them and see if we would be able to have a booth this year, and have our volunteers get in for free or a reduced rate
- Lauren wanted to know of the feasibility of getting at least one more AmeriCorps member that would focus almost entirely on planning camps, fundraising, and educational events **The 2 members that we have now are paid for by ODNR Division of Mineral Resources management. They are covered by MRM because they are doing the water quality monitoring, project maintenance, and data entry, verification, analysis. If we wanted a member specifically for education, we**

- could get one, but RCP would be responsible for the match. It's about \$8100 per year, per member.
- A possible alternative of getting grants for summer interns was discussed, as interns would have the time to run these events. And if they were paid there would be a higher probability of retaining interns **Don't know what would change legally if we were paying an intern. This could be a good idea if we are not liable for anything. (Insurance, workers comp....)**
  - Camps are still a very successful means of fundraising, and grants that can cover the cost of food and transportation would allow for more money to go directly towards RCP's general fund.
    - Food usually costs about \$400 for a week of camp
    - Chelsi will talk to her supervisor at Kroger about getting food donations for the next camp
    - Lauren suggested that since RCP has such cheap camps that by simply increasing registration by a third we could see a larger influx of money
    - Partnering with Big Brothers Big Sisters in the future may help to reach demographics usually unable to attend our camps
    - **Transportation is an issue this year. OU has changed vehicle rental processes. There's a lot more liability now and we can no longer use the vans for camps. Dustin and Steve will explore other options. Other camps have used local school busses. Michelle Shively had some suggestions. Dustin and Steve, please be sure to follow up with them.**
  - Lauren will talk to Kiser's and Applebee's about fundraisers
  - Heike will talk to Casa and make sure we are still on their list of Non-profits for their monthly tip donation
  - Someone will need to talk to boogie on the bricks to see if we can do advertising or tabling during the event
  - We will continue to contact OU to serve beer at home games **I still have not seen this check.**
  - Canoe Race/potluck community event
    - July 31<sup>st</sup>, Glenn will reserve the picnic area
    - Molly will contact other racing event organizers to discuss logistics
    - A price of \$20 will be set to participate in the race
  - Summer camp dates have been set
    - June 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> for 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade
    - July 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> for 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>
  - We will have a kayak raffle again this year
  - A fundraiser will be held at Jackie O's this June
  - Steven will talk to the Young Naturalists group about them purchasing bird boxes for \$10 each

## **RCP Board Meeting**

### **6:30 pm**

- In attendance
  - Molly Gurien
  - Heike Perko
  - Lauren Dick
  - Jessica Makosky
  - Chelsi Hempstead
  - Glenn Stout
  - Vance Rannells
  - Dustin Gross
  - Steven Malueg
  - Jennifer Somerville
- Past minutes
  - Information about Chelsi was incorrect in the September and October meeting minutes
    - September minutes
      - Chelsi's name was spelled incorrectly
      - She was an OU student not a Hocking Student
      - She was not a WTA intern
    - October minutes
      - She was an OU student not Hocking
  - Vance made a motion to approve minutes with these mistakes fixed, Chelsi seconded
    - Motion passed
- Treasurer's report
  - Share Savings= \$245.57
  - RCWTA= \$2,201.92
  - Business Checking= \$9,100.48
  - Waterloo= \$508.16
  - Quidel Cares Grant= \$1,193.87
  - AEP Bill= Cost \$19.18
- Watershed Coordinator updates
  - Amy was not in attendance but left these notes
  - Macro ID for 2015 has been completed
  - All chemical and macro data entered and verified into NPS (thanks AmeriCorps for all the hours of data)
  - Currently waiting for Fish Scores from ODNR
  - Biological sampling planning meeting with ODNR on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February
  - Tentative planning for 2016 season
    - 6 boat fish sites
    - 10 longline fish sites
    - 37 MAIS sites (macro invertebrates)
      - Will start MAIS early this year, mid June, as soon as water looks good. Really need to get Little Raccoon and West Branch done early.

- Volunteers are more than welcome and greatly appreciated for bug sampling
  - AmeriCorps recruiting for 2016-2017
    - Currently have 5 applicants
    - Please send qualified and interested people our way
  - We will have a booth at the Gallia Farm City Day
  - Gallia tree sale has good items for purchase
  - Homecoming check should be coming soon-paperwork has been submitted
  - Spring Newsletter should be started soon, please get articles to Dustin and Steve
  - A public meeting should be held soon
  - The Gallia Tourism Expo is on March 5<sup>th</sup>, Dustin and Steve will go, and we will offer a T-shirt and hat as door prize gifts
  - Taylor Gilmore, a Geo Environmental student will do her practicum with us this summer
- RC&D Grant
    - Heike is talking to Meigs SWCD about projects there
      - Will they be able to give money for match?
      - They already do clean-ups in Meigs, and they are very successful
    - Grant money could go towards marketing and merchandising funds, to help get our name out there and raise awareness in the community
    - Money could go towards organizing and disposing of litter piles in Vinton County **This grant can't be used in Vinton County. Only Hocking, Athens, or Meigs. Need to move on this. I am turning this over to the board to work on. It's due April 18<sup>th</sup>. I thought RCP would provide the match??**
    - **It was decided that a presentation about the work Amy, Sarah, and the AmeriCorps do should be held soon for the new board members**
      - **This will happen at the March board meeting**
    - A TMDL will be conducted in the watershed during the next 2 years
      - We will be working together with the EPA on this and sharing data
    - RCP should work on partnering with groups that can help us plan larger events and reach more people
    - The RC&D grant deadline is April 18<sup>th</sup>
    - A rain-barrel workshop would be a good event to hold with the RC&D money
      - People could take pictures of them after construction at their homes
      - Heike will talk to Teresa Caldwell about the rain barrel workshop she puts on
      - With the money we could provide rain barrels for free for the first 10 people, would be incentive to make sure we had people show up
      - Heike will also talk to Hocking, Meigs, and Athens SWCDs before next meeting

- Casey Papp **Casey is coming to the March meeting**
  - Has a non-profit group and is offering us close to \$1,000 dollars.
  - It is currently unclear what she would like in return and Chelsi will send her an email asking for clarification and to meet in person in the near future
  - If Casey is offering volunteers to us we could use them to clean the doser channel
- Public meeting
  - Will be held April 27<sup>th</sup> in Vinton, and Amy will contact the Wild Boar expert to have him give a presentation **USDA will do presentation, I need to give them a place. Board member needs to confirm a place. Good places that we have met in the past include the New Marshfield Community Center, McCoys in Vinton, Wilkesville Community Center, libraries....**
- Water Quality specialist
  - Sarah was not in attendance
  - Sarah will be getting married on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at Lake Snowden, the entire board is invited
- AmeriCorps
  - Family Outdoors Day will be held May 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Dustin recently finished the grant for new paddles, bows, and camp food
  - The waterloo report is complete
  - Earlier today the AmeriCorps members went to Alexander to help Environmental Education AmeriCorps put on an archery program for Alexander middle schoolers
  - Jessica will talk to Chris Riddle about getting our events posted in the Athens News, and will see if we can do interviews and talk about the events that we will be hosting
  - Jennifer will work on creating a communication plan to help with our outreach efforts
  - Currently working on finalizing all of the summer camp details
  - Working on advertising for the new AmeriCorps members
- Water Trails
  - The Kayak will cost \$415 to purchase from Marietta Adventure Co. this year
    - Profits are always split between RCP and RCWTA. Molly suggested splitting the cost equally between the two groups
      - Heike motioned to approve, Jessica seconded
        - Approved
  - An ACA approved instructor training course will be held the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of April.
    - Jessica, Jennifer, and Chelsi are interested in attending
    - Ron will be attempting to become an instructor trainer to take some of the stress off of Molly
    - Water Trails may be able to sponsor some of the members

- Members who already have their ACA certification will assist in teaching
  - The Raccoon Creek Management plan requires a canoe day
    - **This is not in the work plan anymore, but is a good thing to do. And is a deliverable in the 319 grant that we have now.**
    - Possibly turn this into a canoe skills training day
    - We could charge to teach people canoeing skills
      - If we charge we would need insurance
      - Molly may be able to get insurance through the ACA for \$40
    - We could charge \$15 for the skills lesson
      - If materials are printed at the Voinovich school it could decrease the cost **We CAN NOT be printing lots of stuff at the Voin School. New printers track who is printing and if we start printing a lot, we may have to start paying per copy. RCP just needs to have a designated printer and ink.**
    - It would be nice to hold a members only float during late March, it will be discussed at the next meeting
- The house at Waterloo is being demolished
  - Our lease on the education center is good until 2018
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Ridges
- 8:14pm Molly motioned to adjourn, Chelsi seconded
  - Approved