

**RCP Board Meeting January 27, 2016**  
**6:30 pm, Voinovich School**

**In Attendance:** Amy Mackey, Dustin Gross, Bob Eichenberg, Sarah Landers, Chelsi Hempstead, Vance Rannels, Molly Gurien, Glenn Stout, Jessica Makosky, Heike Perko, and Alex Horvath (OU student in Marine Biology and volunteer)

Molly called the meeting to order and new members and guests were introduced.

**Minutes**

Bob needs to provide minutes from the October meeting and will do so before the February meeting. The December minutes were approved with Chelsi making the motion, Molly seconding, and all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Water Quality Specialist (WQS)      \$255.33 +whatever OVRCD has
- RCWTA      \$2,123.92
- Waterloo      \$534.61
- Quidel      \$1,193.87
- Checking      \$8,760.19
- \$236 was transferred from RCWTA to RCP on 12/31/2015 for the annual maintenance fee.

**Coordinator-Amy**

- All macroinvertebrates have been ID'ed.
- Amy will complete necessary paperwork for OU so we can get our check for serving beer at the Homecoming game.
- We have a grant application for Buckeye Hills Resource Conservation and Development District. BHRCD provides three \$600 grants. Amy will call to get more specifics.
- The Ohio Mineland Partnership spring conference will be on May 5<sup>th</sup> in Belmont County.
- The Ohio Fish and Wildlife Association Conference is next week. It is good for recruiting Americorps students and volunteers.
- ODNR's Wildlife Diversity Conference is April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Americorps will have 2 positions open. New rules state that no college education is required, but a GED is required. Applications can be accepted after 2/1/16 and interviews can begin on 4/1/16.

**Water Quality Specialist-Sarah**

- Sarah, Dustin, and Steve are verifying chemical data.
- ODNR-MRM has been assessing performance on completed projects to figure out what maintenance needs to be performed. This will include slag beds, the doser, the concrete channel, and valving. We have 3 Successive Alkaline Producing Systems (SAPS) and 15 slag beds.
- There are two upcoming reclamation projects. In 2016 there will be a reclamation on Daniel's Run in the Little Raccoon Creek drainage. This is also a health and safety issue involving highwalls. In 2017, the next ridge over from Harble-Griffith, Ilesboro Rd., will see a reclamation.
- OVRCD, covering Jackson, Vinton, and Gallia Counties, is closing its doors so our contract with them will finish 7/1/2016. They have been the fiscal agent for the Office of Surface Mine's Watershed Cooperative Agreement funding. We have been getting about \$4,500 per year for our data reporting. Amy and Sarah will investigate how we can do the accounting.
- Molly motioned and Heike seconded to replace the pH probe. All in favor.

## Americorps

- Our Spring Outdoors Day is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> with the 22<sup>nd</sup> as a backup in case Sunday Creek has its Dash for the Darter event on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The event will run either 11am-5pm or 11am-6pm. It is free with a suggested donation. Activities and education can include archery, canoeing, birding hikes, fishing, edible plants, hiking, pollinators, zero waste, and a pond study.
- Cabella's grant is to be submitted next week. The request is for food and archery equipment.
- Camps  
We may change age groups to even up our numbers. We've had too many little kids and not enough big ones. The minimum age/requirement is completion of Kindergarten. The dates for camp are June 20-24 and July 18-22.
- Steve is the lead for the Jackie O's fundraiser. Jackie O's Public House is to open in May.
- The Gallia County Tourism Expo is in March. We need to make sure we have a presence.
- The Owl Prowl is good to go. Final details were ironed out.
- We need an indoor light timer for Waterloo to minimize break-in possibilities.

## RCWTA-Molly

- "Doc" gave us 2 canoes a while ago and now he has given us:
  - One tandem, plastic kayak and carry yoke
  - One Old Towne guide kayak
  - 2 kayak paddles
  - 3 life jackets
  - 4 dry bags
  - 1 indoor, wooden canoe rack**He needs a receipt for this donation.**
- There is a question about storage of boats and supplies at Waterloo and we can only wait to see the outcome of negotiations with ODNR before long term decisions are made.
- **There needs to be a kayak purchase for the Paw Paw raffle.**
- There are requests coming in for canoe instructor training. These should be held at Lake Hope rather than at Penrod. Tentative dates are April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **Should we conduct a skills class that teaches basic strokes?**
- There was some discussion of Spring Float dates and locations. April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> are possible dates.

## Waterloo Committee-Heike

- The house will have to be rented at market value, but ODNR is willing to consider projects and work that we do in furtherance of the goals of the Pittman-Robinson Act as reductions to the rent amount. The Pittman-Robinson Act (The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937) provided funds for the purchase of the property initially. The work we or a future tenant might do that promotes wildlife conservation or preserves wildlife can go towards a rent reduction. Examples include habitat enhancement, trash pickup, hunter safety, and terrestrial species and freshwater species habitat conservation.
- The old YCC camp is an option for headquarters if, in a worst case scenario, we lose the house and Center. We have two years left on our lease for the Waterloo Education Center.

## Fundraising

- **We need a separate meeting and possible a committee to discuss details. Interested in being on a fundraising committee are Molly, Chelsi, Amy, Lauren, and maybe Heike. A tentative meeting is before the next regular meeting on 2/24.**
- Vance's farm is a potential venue for an event that can include a hayride, cookout, cool suspension bridge, stargazing, etc.

- There were questions about corporate sponsorship. We do not have any corporate sponsors, but have a PR presentation that is mostly ready to go.
- We have 54 bluebird boxes that we need to sell at events. We can do a “Post your bluebird box photos” as a contest.

### **Adjournment**

Molly motioned and Chelsi seconded.