

**Education Committee Meeting Waterloo Aquatic Education Center  
December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Attendance: Amy Mackey, Rina Caldwell, Natalie Kruse, Dick Hogan, Amber Brookins, Heike Perko, Erin Sykes**

**Introductions**

**Mission Statement Discussion:**

We evaluated the mission statement, addressed where we met the mission through events during the past year and what we have not met. The youth programs have been a success. We need to focus more on family oriented events and find a way to bring in the local community of Waterloo Township. Heike suggested to take the presentation Amy has put together and take it to the commissioners meetings.

**Grants:**

Rina will work on the OEEF Mini Grant Application and concentrate on grants which will help with making the building more energy efficient and eventually ecologically sustainable, for instance the use of solar energy and using this as an educational tool for visitors to the center. Rina will also look at grants which would help organize and facilitate teacher workshops and stipends;

Rina will talk to Diagnostic Hybrids about sponsoring a bulletin board for the building;

Rina will familiarize herself with the step outside grant to bus schools to Waterloo;

Rina will write a "One by One" grant to get water bottles (reusable) with our logo on them for our summer camps and for door prizes (maybe an incentive to attract membership folks, new members get a RCP water bottle);

**Outreach:**

Amy and Amber will try to connect us more with service organizations such as the wildlife Club and the interpretive program at Hocking College, to recruit volunteers for the center and the camps; They will also try to get some watercraft folks out here to extend the canoeing for campers (survey showed they really enjoyed this and want more time doing this activity, maybe a river float?) bottom line, we need more help;

Rina has scheduled programs with libraries around the watershed to do programs drawing attention to our group;

Rina will send a general letter to Alexander 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to reconnect for a field trip or a visit to their land lab such as we did in 2009 (most children who go to Alexander live in the raccoon creek watershed), these letters can also be extended to Athens public schools and other surrounding schools such as Vinton county for example;

Heike will continue to represent Waterloo during SECO (Science Education Council of Ohio) meetings;

Dick will contact his cohorts to gather ideas on bringing sustainable living ideas such as permaculture to our youth in a fun manner;

Natalie will contact some service organizations at OU to see if they can do a fundraiser for us (sororities, fraternities, environmental and wildlife clubs etc.)

Natalie will ask staff at OU if they would be willing to teach a session this summer at Waterloo to teachers such as Dr. Johnson macroinvertebrates, geology, history etc;

Heike will help Rina set up visiting school districts during superintendent meetings;

### **2010 Camp Dates:**

**Spring:** Saturdays 10-1 April 10<sup>th</sup> Wildflowers April 17<sup>th</sup> Amphibians

**Summer:** Registration or suggested donation 50 dollars (10/day) for the first session and 30 dollars (10/day) for the second session;

Dates: June 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> (all week camp), June 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 3 day camp;

**Fall:** Saturdays 10-1 October 9<sup>th</sup> Fall Science (leaf litter, decomposition, terrariums), October 23<sup>rd</sup> Journey to the Heart of Nature by Joseph Cornell;

### **2010 Family Events:**

January 15<sup>th</sup> Evening Campfire, hot chocolate and Owl Prowl 5:30-7:30, owl pellets, maybe Pat Quackenbush with live owls;

April 25<sup>th</sup> Family Fishing and Archery at Penrod 2-4 p.m.

### **Next Meeting:**

Date: February 12<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m. location TBA, possibly New Marshfield Fire station or Community Center, I will let you know;

What needs discussed: Camp Topics, Camp Brochure, Fall Family Events, Teacher Workshops, Fundraising, Report by Rina;

### **Other Announcements:**

January 30<sup>th</sup> all day symposium at Christ The King, Awakening the dreamer changing the dream, focuses on sustainable and alternative lifestyles and ideas connected to the spiritual;