

**Raccoon Creek Water Trail Association Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 2, 2006**  
**Wells Public Library, Albany**

1. Update on Water Trail designation process and details:
  - The process is 3 steps. First, collect an inventory of all possible sites. Second, contact the landowners of those sites. Third, get signed consent forms from all landowners.
  - A series of informative public meetings were discussed to support our future efforts of obtaining signed consent forms from all landowners of access points.
  - Consent forms aren't just a great idea; they're a REQUIREMENT by the Ohio Division of Watercraft to earn water trail designation.
  - Access points have to be identified every 10 river miles with some flexibility. Ben has digital maps with river miles to help in trail design.
  
2. Status of current inventory:
  - Trail design/inventory will include historical, cultural, hazardous, and current access point features.
  - See attached excel document for ODNR sites and RCWTA sites for consideration. The ODNR list also includes: 677 & Raccoon Creek and Cleary Road off of 10.
  - Inventory Committee: Glenn, Matt, Brett, Ben plus someone (to be identified) from the lower section.
    - i. Glenn Stout has contacts with key people in that area and will work on building relationships with people in the lower section.
    - ii. Ben's going to schedule a time to go through all the sites and make a list of land owners.
  
3. Grant writing for improving access points:
  - Next round of grants comes up in spring.
  - ODNR grants are reimbursable so we can't forget that someone will have to pay up front.
  
4. Fundraising Suggestions:
  - A local canoe/bike website offered to add a RCWTA tab which would allow us to receive donations. We need a small graphic and a 1-2 sentence overview of our group.
  - Organizing the placement of aluminum can collection receptacles around the watershed.
  - Raffling a canoe was again discussed with the 7<sup>th</sup> annual canoe float as the award date.
  
5. Website Progress:
  - Cost, \$120 for 2 years and \$4.95/month.
  - Molly's working on this and is looking for CREATIVE PEOPLE to help.

6. Bank Account:
  - Treasurer and Chair will have access with Ben as an alternate.
  - Glenn's going to open the account and get the details (savings, checking, minimum balance, etc.)
  
7. Raccoon Creek Partnership Discussion:
  - Bylaws were drafted and a copy is attached.
  - Partnership has decided to become a 501c3 to create a more permanent structure.
  - RCWTA decided to partner with the RC Partnership as a 'project' versus a 'special committee' which allows us to accept grants administered through the Partnership while maintaining our independence for decision making.
  
8. Next meeting will be in January. More details soon.