

OCPT minutes, 9/2/09, Berkeley County PSSD board room

In attendance: Lew Baker, Sandra Bernardi, Mary Beth Bennett, Ron Gunderson, Alana Hartman, Steve and Debbie Knipe, Sharon Lee, Lou Scavnicky, George Snider, Bill Zinner

Meeting was opened by president, Bill Zinner, 5:30 p.m.

Treasurer's report was given by Gary Sylvester. See ledger he circulated.

- Stream Partners '08-09 still has ~\$713 remaining, from which \$125 will be spent on sampling bill.
- 106 grant: \$250 video payment remaining to be made. **Sandra will look at draft video as next step.**
- OCPT account anticipating reimbursement from 106 grant and snapshot sampling supplies
- Bill for the banner has been submitted but bill for decals still remaining to be submitted. (decals look good)
- Gary suggested "staff"/logo shirts for events where we staff a table, and possibly also for cleanups. Alana approved spending remaining Stream Partners money on this, *if* the board analyzes the Stream Partners budget and makes certain all the items there were indeed purchased/achieved.
 - Gary moved to approve purchase of ~12 mostly L,XL (a couple M) of these shirts. Ron seconded. Passed. **Gary will purchase them.**
 - Alana stated any extra shirts purchased with S.P. money may not be marketed as a fundraiser, but the group thought if someone inquired about shirt and there are extra, we could ask for donation.
- **Alana will check with Martinsburg library about why OCPT has not received \$65 for rain barrel.**

Thanks to Gary and Diane for wonderful float trip 8/8/09. All who participated in that and meal following had fun.

Green Expo on Wed. **requires some staffing by OCPT members** (Gary is coordinating).

Volunteer liability coverage ~\$360/yr. Alana approved using any unused Stream Partners funds for that, since insurance was already a line item in that budget. **Gary will purchase. [later over e-mail he sought board approval]**

Apple Harvest festival participation is still planned, but Gary has to wait till mid-month to begin planning for that.

First Aid kit – George already has one for OCPT in his possession. **George will check expiration of meds.** Bill requested aspirin be included.

Gary suggested we begin keeping an inventory of items owned by OCPT and who possesses them at a given time. E.g. when loaning pump to buffer landowner for a season, new banner, etc. Gary can maintain it as a treasurer's duty. **All should e-mail Gary with what they have.**

George moved to accept treasurer's report, and Ron seconded. Passed.

Giles rain garden: no one has looked at it since July 11 but back then was pretty weedy. Mary's advice had been to wait till fall to make a final decision.

Tabled discussion of Strite rain garden until Mary could be here.

Baltimore St. Rain Garden [Steve Knipe wasn't here yet when we discussed this] Bill discussed weed condition with Steve K. today. Martin might not know which plants to save/weed – maybe we can invite him on a weeding day we should plan this year. Mary Beth confirmed Master Gardeners and the M.G. candidates (18 in new class) could get credit for this. **___ will pick date (?)**

Judicial Center – we weeded 2 x this year but it is looking very weedy again. Mulch was said to have caught on fire!

PSSD Rain garden project using AGO leftover funds: We should do the soil, trees, shrubs this fall...herbaceous plants in spring. Lou can work with George on this. Is there Baltimore St. r.g. soil leftover somewhere? \$2000 toward soil was said to buy 54 cu. Yards – maybe just make this garden the appropriate size for that amount of soil, 3 ft deep (?) George moved to have an agreement signed by PSSD saying they will do excavation, mulch, gravel, and perpetual maintenance, and OCPT will do soil, plants, initial labor. Sandra seconded. Passed.

If someone tells Sandra the dimensions of planned garden, she can calculate # of plants needed and decide whether to use divided plants from other gardens, etc. We can use general fund monies or a portion of Stream Partners 09-10 budgeted funds for Conley buffer, to purchase the needed trees and shrubs this fall.

Mill Creek 319 grant #1 – Alana gave report about successful completion of Conley's Natural Stream Restoration project. CVI did very professional job, and NRCS is helping landowner and renter to figure out how to water the cows enough.

Stream sampling program changes: at last monitoring meeting we decided we would need another meeting this fall: Tabled.

Public Service Water District meeting re: North Mt. Shale mine proposal. Bill attended. Continental Brick representatives defended the science in their permit application but parts of that seemed specious; seemingly incorrect methodology – not enough seasons of hydrology studied. Someone there said they'd be writing a letter to DEP to that effect. An issue that might have more traction than past issues is that the aquifer under N. Mt. that services Glenwood Forest (700 families) may be endangered by the proposed quarry.

There was mention that PSSD is now responsible for runoff/stormwater in county.

Mother Jones recent article about water scarcity was noted.

Source Water Protection meeting was held 8/19 by Lew Baker and some OCPT attended.

Tuscarora creek walking survey: Bill Z., Steve Knipe, and Lou S. will study Mary/Sandra's methods, and begin perhaps mid-Sept.

Stream cleanup coming up 9/12.

Karst workshop Sept. 14/15 (correction from agenda). Includes caving to see a karst window, using a dousing rod. Alana mentioned registration fee for such workshops is valid use of leftover Stream Partners funds, also.

Exec. Committee meetings planned on usual schedule.

Sandra or Gary or Lou can staff/coordinate for Apple Harvest Festival OCPT booth.

Vila Planting Oct. 17th (not a buffer, but an upland tree planting).

Sandra asked for [summer articles for newsletter](#).

Bill noted he keeps seeing different OCPT watershed signs on roads – admires them.

[Bill still has to call DEP about Stone Bridge](#) – deterring dumping site.

George submitted a writeup for Watershed Celebration Day on time. [Alana will check to see that they received it. \[yes\]](#)

[George will check on Jenni Vincent's](#) progress on a column idea.

Bill will make business cards since Sandra's printer won't take that paper.

Prospect Hall buffer planting (funded by extra Bay funding that WV gets, no match needed this time) mentioned by Alana, for which we need to choose a date to put together cages, and a date to plant. Lou can lend his auger.

Tim Craddock/WV SOS program sent various people an opportunity to purchase Voshell-guide-related items at discount.

tour of "Opequon Water Reclamation Facility" i.e. Winchester's waste treatment plant recommended by Bill . George and Ron recommended first talking to operator, Jesse Moffat. They have innovative policies, like Frederick Co. not allowing sludge on fields. Alana mentioned that it did smell very bad one day a couple weeks ago, but that was the only negative thing anyone knew about it. It was suggested to ask Curtis to attend tour if interested.

Alana agreed to forward WV nutrient trading documents to Bill and Lew, as the public comment period ends ~~Sept. 16~~ [actually it's Sept.14].

George moved to adjourn (~6:50 p.m.), Sharon seconded. Passed.

6:55 p.m. Lew Baker presented a very good slide show about local source (drinking) water protection areas, efforts, and needs. He wants to stay in touch with OCPT about its work to reduce pollution, because that information can make its way into revisions of City of Martinsburg's and Berkeley County's SWP plans.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Alana Hartman