

OPEQUON CREEK PROJECT TEAM, INC.
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
February 3, 2010

Meeting Held At: P.S.S.D. Conference Room, District Way, Martinsburg, WV

Present: Bill Zinner, Mary & Peter Palmer, Sandra Bernardi,
Diane & Gary Sylvester, Lou Scavnicky, Kyle Crapster
Guest: Brent Walls

Meeting Opened at 6:05pm by President, Bill Zinner

Meeting Minutes: It was noted the Minutes Of The Meeting from September 2009 to January 2010 had not been approved by the membership. Sandra made a motion to accept and approve Minutes of the Meeting for September, October, November and December 2009 and January 2010. Gary Sylvester seconded the motion, there was no further discussion and the motion was approved and passed by all members present.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported the OCPT general fund balance was \$2,780.64 and the 2010 Stream Partners Grant fund balance was \$4,023.96 for a total account balance of \$6,688.75. OCPT is expecting reimbursements of approximately \$1500.00 which will raise the general fund balance to approximately \$4,200.00 and the total account balance to approximately \$8,188.00.

The Treasurer noted the 2009 Stream Partners Grant fund had a negative balance of \$115.85 so the account was still open. Mary made a motion to transfer \$115.85 from the general fund balance to the 2009 Stream Partners Grant fund to close the account. Sandra seconded the motion, there was no further discussion, and the motion was approved and passed by all members present. (This transfer of funds is on paper only – it has no effect on the account balance)

There was discussion about purchasing barrels and plumbing supplies to make OCPT rain barrel kits. Gary reported OCPT has approximately 30 kits on hand. OCPT has a rain barrel presentation scheduled on 3/13 at the Master Gardener, Gardening 101 seminar, and exhibit/presentations at Earth Day on 4/17. More barrel kits will probably be needed to fill the orders from these presentations and have some on hand to sell on a person by person basis and to sell at OCPT events later in the year. Gary reported if he cannot locate free barrels, he will need to buy barrels and supplies to make the kits. Discussion concerned how many might be needed (projected sales) and concern about depleting general funds. Besides costs, what also needs to be considered for purchasing: if Gary needs to travel a distance to purchase them, it would be more economical to bring

back a full trailer load and if there is a cost savings break to purchase a certain number of barrels? It was decided that Gary should locate the barrels and report to the OCPT Board of Directors by email for concurrence prior to the purchase.

There was discussion concerning the Earth Day exhibit and rain barrel presentations. There is a vendor fee for the exhibit space of \$15/per space and OCPT uses 3 spaces to allow the trailer with the rain barrels to be on display and offer an impressive back drop to the presentations. And last year, OCPT paid Frank Rodgers to do two presentations at this event. The presentations were very well received and sales were great. Mary made a motion for OCPT to pay the \$45.00 vendor fee and \$100.00 to Frank Rodgers to do two presentations. Diane seconded the motion, there was no further discussion and the motion was approved and passed by all members present.

There was discussion about Musselman High School science teacher, Deb Steven's, request for OCPT to supply rain barrels for a class paint testing experiment. It was decided OCPT would supply her with rain barrels for the test and request a painted one back to use at OCPT exhibits.

Reports:

Conley Stream Improvement Project

There was a brief discussion about the buffer planting planned for the Conley property in March. OCPT volunteers will plant approximately 1200 trees on March 27, 2010, starting at 9:00am. OCPT is still waiting to learn if Herb Peddicord has found additional help with the planting; possibly help from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Mary is to request help from Matt Van Dongen's scout troop.

Tuscarora Creek Watershed Based Plan

Lou reported he was recording data collected during the creek assessment in spreadsheets and expected to be finished in the next few weeks. This information will be used to help prepare a watershed based plan for Tuscarora Creek.

Buffer in a Bag Project

Sandra brought flyers to address and stamp by the members present during the meeting. These will be mailed to creek side property owners on various creeks. On a first come basis, a limited number of the owners who respond to the flyer may receive 25 tree seedlings, free from OCPT. Lou helped Sandra prepare the seedling order form. They will be handed out at the Earth Day Festival. Volunteers will be needed to tag and bundle the seedlings.

USGS – Leetown Road.

Bill shared an interesting list of current studies on water quality issues being conducted by researchers at the USGS facility. Bill recommended OCPT request a presentation from them at an upcoming OCPT general meeting.

Upcoming Events:

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| 03/03/2010 | 6:00 pm, OCPT regular meeting |
| 03/13/201 | 9:00-2 pm, Gardening 101, seminar by the Master Gardeners, for more Information, call the WV Extension office, 304-264-1936 |
| 03/12-14 | Eastern Panhandle Home Builders Show, Martinsburg Mall |
| 03/27/2010 | Conley buffer planting, for more information, contact:
Alana.C.Hartman@wv.gov |
| 04/10/2010 | Spring Clean up event, Van Metre Stonebridge on Flaggs Crossing Road at Blairton Rd., 9:00-12:00am meet at the public access parking lot |
| 04/17/2010 | Earth Day Festival, War Memorial Park, more details to follow |

Guest Speaker: Brent Walls, Potomac Riverkeeper

Brent Walls is the Potomac Riverkeeper's full time manager in the upper Potomac River region and is based in Bunker Hill, West Virginia. He shared information with OCPT about Potomac Riverkeeper's history, operations and goals. Brent will be covering the entire upper Potomac area and will spend much time traveling. Brent intends to lead programs that protect and restore the water quality of the Upper Potomac River, including Opequon Creek and its tributaries. Brent also indicated he can be the go to person for help with problem sites and requested OCPT members notify him when there is a concern. Since starting in September 2009, he has begun to develop a plan of action and has been accumulating information about areas of concern. Anyone can contact him at: brent@potomacriverkeeper.org and find more information on the organization at: www.potomacriverkeeper.org.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00pm

Minutes of the Meeting Prepared by Mary Palmer, Secretary

Minutes are posted at: www.opequoncreek.org