

Minutes of the WSWA Board Meeting

January 23, 2013

Attendance: The following board members were present: Stacy Dugan, Susan Jones, Kate Lehman, Larry Lower, Rebecca MacLeod, Jim Price and Andy Swaim. Norman Dean has been excused from attendance. Also in attendance were: Renada Evans, Alana Hartman (WVDEP), Suzy Lucas (EPCD), Dave O'Brien, Kris O'Brien, Stan Oaks, Russell Ratliff, Carol Reece, and Tim Seims.

Approval of Minutes from the December, 2012 meeting: Larry moved and Susan seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. It will be noted that Andy Swaim was in attendance at the December meeting.

Announcements: WSWA receives 501(c)(3) status.

Action Items from December Meeting: Frank Rodgers of the Cacapon Institute has joined the committee whose task it is to create a QAPP for our monitoring program. WSWA can use the Cacapon Institute QUAPP on various parameters as a template for our document.

Treasurer's Report: Andy reported that there is currently \$4617.64 in the CNB account, and \$976.17 in the account held by PHRC&D. The following items were paid for out of the CNB account: a printing bill (\$15.90) from the *Morgan Messenger*; payment (\$48.00) on our PO Box; reimbursement (\$39.33) to John Webster for a chain for his chain saw, used to clear a blocked area in the Run. There was a \$50.00 deposit for dues. The report will be filed for audit.

Unfinished Business

Susan, Carol and Kate will work with Tim Craddock in helping to plan for the **2013 Watershed Celebration** event.

Alana presented WSWA with a \$5000.00 check to cover the expenses of our **2013 Stream Partners grant**, and shared with Board members state-mandated requirements for accepting this grant. Specifically, any budget changes over \$100.00 must be pre-approved. Also, it is necessary to submit cancelled checks as well as invoices. Since Potomac Headwaters RC&D was our fiduciary agent when we were awarded the grant, members of that group will also sign the contract agreeing to these matters.

Susan reported that our website (<http://wswawv.wordpress.com>) has been completed. This website is free, which limits certain design features. Members are urged to check out the website, and report any errors in spelling, grammar, or factual information.

There was polite and significant debate as to whether WSWA should sign the **WV Sierra Club Marcellus Shale letter**. Based upon the mission of the WSWA, which is to restore, protect and preserve the Run, Larry moved and Stacy seconded the motion that we sign on to the WV Sierra Club Marcellus Shale letter. The vote to accept this motion was unanimous.

Stacy moved and Susan seconded a motion to put the WSWA on record as against any fracking in Morgan County that could potentially disrupt the Warm Springs recharge area, or that could potentially affect water quality in the Warm Springs Run watershed. The vote was unanimous.

Action Item: Kate will notify the WV Sierra Club Marcellus Shale Committee of our support.

New Business

Andy motioned and Stacy seconded that we make the Morgan County **Make-it-Shine** event a major effort by joining forces with the Sleepy Creek Watershed Association (SCWA), the Town of Bath, the Berkeley Springs Lions Club and other organizations to hold a joint clean-up on April 6th. There were 6 votes in favor of this motion and 1 vote opposed to it. We will clean the area of the Run between the North Berkeley Park and Jimstown Road. Larry suggested that we work with other organizations to take out a major ad in the *Messenger* by which to invite the public to join with us to make our town and county a cleaner place.

Action Items: Kate will contact SCWA and Friends of the Cacapon about contributing to the cost of an ad in the *Messenger*. Andy will bring this motion to the Town of Bath Council. Kate will determine the owners of this property so as to seek permission to be on their land.

Rebecca moved and Stan seconded that we not be **sponsors of the EPCD Earth Day race** this year. Six people voted for and one person against this motion.

Kate shared information about the **March 1st conference** that is being held to highlight the importance of voluntary participation in projects designed to help Morgan County meet its Watershed Implementation Goals by 2015. Rich Batiuk has been invited to be the keynote speaker. Mr. Batiuk is the Associate Director for Science with the US Environmental Protection Agency. It was agreed that we should serve a light lunch as part of this event.

Susan, Larry and Norman will serve as a “committee on committees” to bring a recommendation to the next board meeting on potential committees to take leadership positions on the many projects of the WSWA.

Other Business

Stacy moved and Rebecca seconded that Susan has permission to have 20 copies of the newsletter printed at the Morgan Messenger each quarter without the need to come to the Board for permission for this expenditure. The vote was unanimous.

Larry moved and Andy seconded that the WSWA supports the work of the County in establishing the North Berkeley Rail Trail which, when completed will run parallel to the Run. The vote on this motion was unanimous.

Next Meeting: We will next meet on Wednesday, February 27 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25.

