

WSWA Minutes
June 27, 2012

Special Meeting to Consider Tim Seims' By-law Amendment

Attendance at the General Meeting: Norman Dean, Betty Harmison, Glory Houck; Susan Jones, Andy Jurick; Kate Lehman; Larry Lower; Suzy Lucas; Gordon MacLeod; Jim Price; Tim Seims; Andrew Swaim; Jack Sorenen; Elise Woods.

Kate invited Tim to read his amendment to the by-laws, presented below. Tim's amendment is in italicized letters:

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors will be held monthly or as otherwise determined by the Board of Directors, to which the general membership will receive notice and be encouraged to attend. *In the presence of a quorum of directors, all members shall have equal rights with the directors to discuss, sponsor motions, and vote, at regular meetings except:*

- a) *in the election of officers and;*
- b) *if any two directors shall, for any reason and at any time, even in the course of a meeting, vote to **close the meetings or** confine these powers to the directors for that meeting alone.*

Tim moved (seconded by Gordon) the motion to consider the proposed amendment to the by-laws. Tim was offered 5 minutes to present his views on the amendment. Larry then presented the point of view held by the By-laws Committee, which crafted the original section of the bylaws.

Tim moved (seconded by Gordon) to remove the phrase "close the meeting or" (see bold italicized portion of the proposed amendment) from the amendment. Following discussion Susan called the vote on the amendment to the amendment. The vote was unanimous to amend the original amendment.

Gordon moved to call the question on the amended amendment: five people voted in favor of it; 7 people voted against it; 1 person abstained from voting. The by-law amendment did not pass.

(7:00) Regular Meeting:

Attendance: Norman Dean, Glory Houck; Susan Jones, Andy Jurick; Kate Lehman; Larry Lower; Suzy Lucas; Matt Pennington; Jim Price; Tim Seims; Andrew Swaim.

Rebecca MacLeod and Stacy Dugan were excused from attendance: Rebecca is out of town, and Stacy had a family matter that demanded her attention.

Minutes from the May16, 2012 meeting: Larry moved (seconded by Betty) that the May minutes be accepted as written.

Announcements:

Status of PHRC&D: Kate announced that PHRC&D will continue operations for another year. Olga Adams has retired as administrative assistant; Greg Carnel has agreed to work part time as an independent contractor to administer current projects and seek grants for future projects.

July 12th meeting to support the WV WIP: Kate announced a July 12th meeting in Romney to explore how the WVDEP and EPA can support efforts designed to help WV meet its watershed implementation goals. Kate and Jack plan to attend.

Potomac Valley Audubon program: Glory announced a July 7th trip to visit a newly restored wetlands area.

Unfinished Business

Update on Continued Progress toward 501(c)3 status: Norman reported that the next step is to file incorporation papers, which has been done.

Establishing Membership and Fund Raising Committees: The consensus was to increase membership and funds on an informal basis. Andy stated that if each person at the meeting recruited one more member, and if lapsed members renewed their status, the result would be a significant increase in membership and dues.

Based on the belief that a newsletter and/or website can promote our cause, Susan volunteered to create a regularly published newsletter to be disseminated via email as well as through the USPS to those persons without email accounts.

To Do: Susan will check out the details of a Google website and Norman will check with Sleepy Creek Watershed Association for details on their website.

Establishing Terms of Office: Straws were drawn to determine each Director's term of office, with the following results: Norman Dean, 3 years; Stacy Dugan, 2 years; Betty Harmison, 3 years; Andy Jurick, 2 years; Susan Jones, 2 years; Kate Lehman, 3 years; Larry Lower, 3 years; Rebecca MacLeod, 1 year; Jim Price, 1 year; Andrew Swaim, 1 year.

New Business

Report of Budget Committee/Preliminary Budget: Andy Swaim reported that Norman, Kate, Tim and he met to establish a budget for the remainder of the calendar/fiscal year. Fiscal activity for the past 6 months provided insight as to what income and expenses might be anticipated. This document will be the basis for the treasurer's reports presented at monthly meetings. An official budget will be presented and voted upon by the general membership at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

Andy opened a checking account with CNB, which offered a better deal in terms of various charges.

County Fair: We will have a table at the Fair, as well as to collect and identify macros as a way of drawing participants' attention to the importance of watershed work. A basket will be put out for contributions. Membership slips will also be available. Glory, Susan, Kate, Larry and Andrew will form a Fair Committee to plan for next year.

Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan: Kate reported that the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan was completed well before the June 30 deadline. We were given 3 hard copies of the document. There was discussion about how these copies can be made available to interested people.

To Do: Kate will approach the Morgan County Library to see if they might accept hard copies of the comprehensive plan into their collection.

A pdf copy of the management plan will be made available to anyone who wants it. We will also seek to have the pdf copy listed on an easily accessible website. Kate reported that while the Museum of the Berkeley Springs is willing to include the pdf file on their website, Jeanne Mozier recommended that the County website would receive more attention. Organizations such as the Museum and the Chamber of Commerce can include links to the County's website.

To Do: Kate will contact Carol York about the possibility of having a pdf copy of the comprehensive plan listed on the County website.

Kate reported that Jim Michael, Matt Pennington and she met with the Superintendent of Schools, the CFO and the Superintendent of Maintenance to explore stream bank restoration in the area in front of Widmyer Elementary School. Matt and Kate are meeting with Brian Farkas, Executive Director of the WV Conservation Agency, on July 10th to discuss possible funding of this project.

Kate also reported Bob Denton's recommendation that we do stream monitoring in the same areas currently monitored on a periodic basis by the WVDEP.

Interest was expressed in creating a study group to do an in depth exploration of the comprehensive plan. Kate and Matt will create a synopsis of the findings as well as major recommendations by the next meeting.

To Do: Kate will ask Rebecca to be part of this process.

Watershed Celebration Day will be held on September 7-8, in Tornado, WV. Given the distance (640 miles round trip) no one plans to attend. Kate has nominated the WSWA for various awards to be handed out as part of the celebration; attendance is not necessary to receive the awards.

Adjournment: At 8:30 Larry moved (seconded by Susan) that the meeting be adjourned.

July Meeting: The July meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, the 25th at 7:00PM at the Extension Office.