

Minutes
Warm Springs Watershed Association
June 24, 2015

Attendance: Michael Brooks, Norman Dean, Betty Harmison, Jeff Illif, Kate Lehman, Tim Rowland, Andy Swaim. Excused absences: Larry Lower, Rebecca MacLeod, Bob Wurster. Also present: Gus Lucier, Stan Oaks and Beth Rowland.

Announcements and Reports

Kate announced that WSWA had received a *Marvelous Membership* prize at **Watershed Celebration Day**. The prize was accompanied by a \$100.00 check. Andy and Kate also received a \$200.00 scholarship to cover the costs of attending WCD.

Kate also announced that the final report for the **Demonstration City Grant** has been filed. WSWA was a partner with the Town of Bath Tree Board in conducting a tree-by-tree inventory in Greenway Cemetery. The data collected by volunteers was analyzed by Frank Rodgers of the Cacapon Institute, and then used to create a comprehensive forest plan for the cemetery. Strategically planting trees in Greenway Cemetery can help to reduce the volume and velocity of stormwater runoff into the Run.

Jeff reported that he attended the **WV Rivers Coalition Brain Trust meeting**. There was discussion on ways to keep the proposed container tank legislation on track. Also, WVRC urges all interested people to request Senator Manchin to endorse the proposal to make the Birthplace of Rivers a national monument.

Chuck Marsh (SCWA), Susan Jones, Norman Dean and Kate Lehman attended an informational meeting sponsored by the Division of Natural Resources on the **State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)** report.

Secretary's Report: Michael noted that we did not sell a t-shirt over the website, as was stated in the minutes of the May meeting. Rather, we put a picture of the t-shirt on the website so that people can buy it. Andy moved/Norman seconded that the minutes of the May, 2015 meeting be corrected as noted. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Andy reported that on May 27, the date of the last meeting, the balance in our account in CNB was \$14256.03. In the past month, he paid two bills, both of which were approved:

- \$15.00 to the Morgan Messenger for the cost of printing hard copies of the newsletter, which are distributed at various stores throughout town.
- \$92.34 to reimburse Kate, who purchased 6 field guides to be raffled off at the Plant Fair.

Andy has deposited \$450.00 into our account, broken down as follows:

- \$125.00, the third-quarter disbursement of the hotel/motel tax
- \$15.00 for the sale of one t-shirt
- \$10.00 for a renewed membership
- \$100.00 Watershed Celebration Day award
- \$200.00 scholarship to attend WCD.

As of June 24, 2015, there is \$14,598.69 in our CNB account.

The report will be filed to audit.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Andy presented bills incurred by attendance at Watershed Celebration Day:

- \$83.00 to cover the cost of a room at Hawks' Nest Resort on Friday night
- \$31.77 for Kate and Andy's meals while attending WCD
- \$55.00 for gas.

Betty moved/Tim seconded that Andy be reimbursed for these expenses.

Andy also inquired whether or not we want to purchase a Town of Bath business license for the current fiscal year, which runs from July 1 through June 30. Since we do not plan to sell anything at the Apple Butter Festival, it was decided to wait until closer to the 2016 Plant Fair to purchase a new license.

We need to register with the Secretary of State every year; the deadline is June 30. There will be a cost of \$25 which Kate will cover. Betty moved/Mike seconded that we approve this expense.

Membership Committee: Andy has a hard copy of current membership, including contact information. Andy and Michael will meet to put the current membership list on the cloud.

Publicity Committee: Several people noted that the current edition of our newsletter was exceptionally good. It was recommended that Kate write to Gerry Crispino to thank him for insuring that the illegal dumps in the area around Earth Dog Café were cleaned up.

Stream Monitoring Committee: Norman reported that we will monitor two areas, a control site and one downstream, of the proposed new location of Sheetz in order to establish a baseline against which any future changes can be compared. There are also plans to monitor the Run in the area behind the Board of Education headquarters. That area was affected by a home heating oil spill last Fall. Michael noted how helpful he found the analysis reported in the most recent newsletter to be, and requested a similar analysis on the website rather than bare statistics that

don't mean anything to people not familiar with the Save Our Streams protocol. Norman agreed that he can provide an analysis of future monitoring reports. Jeff Iilif has also been summarizing reports for the website.

Webmaster Report: 40-50 people a month are viewing our website. The “member section” isn't being used; after discussion, there was consensus that there is no need to take that section down.
Old Business

Kate reported on progress being made in planning for the **WV Rivers Coalition Grant for Educating Youth**. The camp will take place on July 13-17.

David Lillard has agreed to facilitate a **goal setting retreat**. Tentative dates are Friday, November 20 from 4:00-7:00. The “snow date” is Friday, December 4.

There was no news to report on the previously proposed **Rail Trail hike**.

New Business

The following people were elected as officers for the 2015-16 year:

- Kate Lehman, President
- Betty Harmison, Vice President
- Michael Brooks, Secretary
- Andy Swaim, Treasurer.

Tim moved/Norman seconded that the slate be elected as a body. The vote was unanimous.

There was discussion on the safety of using Aquastar (a version of Round-Up that is safer to use around bodies of water) in our ongoing effort to control **purple loosestrife** along the banks of the Run. Kate will contact John Schmidt about the efficacy and safety of using the “kiss of death” method rather than spraying.

Other

Michael proposed that a video be created showing scenes of the Run in all four seasons. If we undertake this project on a yearly basis, we might be able to compare the effectiveness of our efforts to control purple loosestrife.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:00.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 22 at the Earth Dog Café. Those persons who wish to do so can meet any time after 5:00 for dinner; the actual meeting will begin at 6:00.