

Minutes
Warm Springs Watershed Association
September 23, 2015

Attendance: **Board Members present:** Michael Brooks, Norman Dean, Betty Harmison, Jeff Illif, Kate Lehman, Rebecca MacLeod, Tim Rowland, Andy Swaim, Bob Wurster. **Excused Board member absence:** Larry Lower

Announcements and Reports

Kate and Andy attended the “**Brain Trust**” meeting on source water protection sponsored by the WV Rivers Coalition.

There will be a total **lunar eclipse** on September 27, starting at 8:11PM EDT.

Secretary’s Report

Bob moved/Betty seconded that the minutes from the August meeting be filed as written; the vote was unanimous.

Treasurer’s Report

Andy reported that at the last meeting, August 26, 2015, the balance in the CNB account was \$13859.91. Since then there have been four debits, all of which were approved at the last meeting:

- \$7.84 to reimburse Michael for the expense of postage used to mail membership renewal letters
- \$104.89 to reimburse Kate for video equipment
- \$104.19 to reimburse Kate for the new Dissolved Oxygen kit
- \$36.92 to reimburse Kate for the purchase of equipment to control purple loosestrife.

In the past month, \$155.00 was deposited into our account:

- \$125.00 from the hotel/motel tax disbursement
- \$24.00 in membership renewal dues
- a \$6.00 donation.

The balance in our CNB account of this morning is \$13761.07.

The treasurer’s report was filed to audit.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Andy submitted 1 bill to submit for approval for payment \$16.56 to Morgan Messenger for printing. Rebecca moved/Norman seconded that we pay the bill; the vote was unanimous.

Membership: Mike reported that two more people had renewed their membership, which brings us to a total of 64 members at this time.

Program: Kate reported that Marie Majarov will be our Annual Meeting speaker. We will try to secure the Board of Education headquarters for a 7:00 meeting on Wednesday, April 20. Marie will speak on Monarch butterflies with emphasis on how they are doing in this specific area.

Publicity: Kate reported that she had submitted a press release to the Morgan Messenger and the Chesapeake Bay newsletter about weeding the Widmyer wetlands. It did not appear in the most recent edition of the Messenger.

Stream Monitoring: Norman reported that with the completion of the Widmyer and Fairview Drive sites, we have concluded stream monitoring for the year. The “bug counts” for both sites are about the same as last year. While some sensitive macroinvertebrates were found, there were far more insensitive critters such as caddisflies. Norman also reported that stream monitors are finding lots of snails in Sleepy Creek. So far no one has been able to identify the snails. As of yet, none of these snails has been found in Warm Springs Run.

Web Master Report: Mike reported that the film of OneWatershed youth interviewing Norman Dean has received the most Facebook “clicks” in the past month. Overall, there were 230 page views of the website last month and 39 visitors. Mike is still trying to get our information posted on the EPA website.

Old Business

The **Board Goal Setting Retreat** will be held at the Board of Education headquarters on Friday, November 20, starting at noon with lunch, and ending around 4:00.

It was determined that the **rail trail** is far too overgrown to sponsor a hike this fall. We will plan a workday to do the work that will allow us to sponsor a hike along the proposed trail in the spring.

There is a newly discovered but significant area of **purple loosestrife** on the east side of 522 between Affordable Auto and the Shed Shack. Aggressive treatment will be required to control the area. Assuming we are given permission by the land owners, we will meet on Thursday, October 1 at 9AM to treat the area.

- Contact owners
- Contact DNR or Fish and Wildlife to determine the best way to control a site this large this late in the season.
- Purchase a mix of rye and oat seeds to plant in the area to reduce the number of new plants that emerge in the spring.
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Interest has been expressed in conducting an ongoing survey of the variety and placement of **wildflowers in the Widmyer wetlands**. In terms of disposal of the weeds pulling recently, Kate will see if the Morgan County Department of Highways can put them in their road kill composting facility.

Plans are well underway in terms of the completed the **2015 Stream Partners Grant**. Our target date for the demonstration on how to install recycled conveyor belt diverters is the morning of October 23.

New Business

There was general discussion of the **2016 Stream Partners grant application** and what will be involved in the event we are awarded this grant.

Adjournment: At 6:40 Rebecca moved/Mike seconded that the meeting be adjourned; the vote was unanimous.

Next Meeting: the next meeting will be held on Wednesday October 21 at 6:00 at the Extension Office. Please note the change from our usual meeting time.