

Draft Minutes
Warm Springs Watershed Association
March 23, 2016

Attendance: Michael Brooks, Norman Dean, Betty Harmison, Jeff Iliff, Kate Lehman, Larry Lower, Bob Wurster, Andy Swaim. *Excused absence:* Rebecca MacLeod

Announcements and Reports

The annual **EPCD dam tour** is April 18; meet in the Food Lion parking lot at 9:00AM.

Andy reported that our Town of Bath **Hotel/Motel Tax application** had been received. The proposed budget must be approved by the State Auditor's office. Recipients of Hotel/Motel funds will not be notified until the proposed budget has been approved.

There are two upcoming **workshops on rain gardens**. WSWA members who take advantage of these workshops will receive in-kind credit for our 2016 Stream Partners grant, which allocates funds to construct a rain garden in Greenway Cemetery.

WEBINAR: Wednesday, April 6th from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Participation in the webinar prior to attending the workshop is highly encouraged as it provides the essentials to planning and utilizing the rain garden.

WORKSHOP: Saturday, April 16th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Location: Claud E. Kitchens Outdoor School at Fairview, 12808 Draper Road, Clear Spring, MD. Rain Date: Saturday, May 14th

These trainings are free but registration is required.

Several people attended the WVDEP-sponsored meeting to update us on our **TMDL**. The meeting was more on the process than on findings specific to the Warm Springs Run situation.

Secretary's Report:

Andy moved/Jeff seconded that the minutes of the February meeting be approved as written. The vote to do so was unanimous

Treasurer's Report

Andy reported that on February 24, 2016, the balance in our CNB account was \$13,764.34.

Since that time, the following previously approved expenditures was made:

- ◆ \$69.50 to the Morgan Messenger 69.50 for printing material used for our display at Morgan County Day.

There was one deposit:

- ◆ \$145.00 in members' dues.

The balance in our CNB account as of this morning was \$13,839.84.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Andy reported that there are no new bills to submit for payment. The Auditing Committee has established a time to meet before the annual meeting on April 20. Finally, Andy said that he would establish a proposed budget for next year to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

Membership: Mike reported that we are currently up to 25 members. We usually gain the most renewed and new memberships at the Annual Meeting and the Plant Fair.

Program: Kate reported that everything was under control in terms of preparation for the Annual Meeting. It was suggested that we ask the Morgan Messenger to publish an article about the speaker, Marie Majarov, in the Hancock paper.

To Do: Mike, Betty, and Bob will bring cookies to the Annual Meeting.

It was decided that we would have some books on native plants to raffle off at the Plant Fair.

Stream Monitoring: Norman reported that we'll begin our stream monitoring program at some point in April. We'll try to hit most of the spots where we monitored last year. It was agreed that we should bring REAP bags and pick up trash in the monitoring locations.

Webmaster: The Face Book and web pages have been recently updated.

Unfinished Business

Our **Make-it-Shine event** will take place in Greenway Cemetery on Wednesday, April 6, starting at 9:00AM.

Jeff reported on progress made on the **"Poopy Project."** It appears that the overall cost will be just under \$220.00 per unit. The four sites proposed as good locations for installation of pet waste stations are McDonald's; by the high school ball diamond, Berkeley Springs State Park and the North Berkeley Park. The next step is to approach people in charge of various areas to determine who will empty the waste stations.

Kate reported that she has been in touch with Mr. Millet of the WVDNR about acquiring **Purple Loosestrife eating beetles** to be released in the area just north of Mt. Moss, where a large patch of PL was recently found.

WSWA was awarded a **C-Tree grant** to plant 24 trees at 440 Fearnow Road on the morning of Saturday, April 23. Norman moved/Bob seconded that we spend \$50 for snacks and coffee.

New Business

Mike, Bob, Tim and Beth Rowland scoped out the proposed **Rail Trail** and reported that it was a nice walk. It was proposed that we sponsor a public hike on May 14 or 15, starting at the bottling plant.

To Do: Kate will check with Jody McClintock to see if it's OK to sponsor a hike on the proposed Rail Trail.

It was proposed that we approach the Messenger about a **monthly environmental column**. Other groups, such as SCWA, Friends of the Cacapon, the Town of Bath Tree Board, will also be invited to write articles about issues of concern.

There was discussion about pursuing the possibility of securing **an AmeriCorps VISTA worker**.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Next Meeting: The Annual Meeting, held on Wednesday, April 20, starting at 7:00PM, will take the place of our regular monthly board meeting.