

Minutes
Warm Springs Watershed Association Annual Meeting
Morgan County Extension Office
April 25, 2018

Attendance

The following people attended the Annual Meeting: Norman Dean, Betty Lou Harmison, Holly Hook, Jeff Iliff, Kate Lehman, Rebecca and Gordon MacLeod, Matt Miller, Stan Oaks, Zach Norris, Andy Swaim, John Webster, Levi Woodall, and Bob Wurster.

Welcome and Announcements

Kate Lehman, WSWA President, welcomed all in attendance and made the following announcements:

- Volunteer Recognition Program, April 28
WSWA 2018 Honoree, Norman Dean
- Arbor Day Celebration, April 30, starting at 11:00am at Berkeley Springs State Park. This year will be much more interesting than past years, as there will be more activities.
- MG Plant Fair, May 11-12, 2018 starting at 9:00am at BS State Park
 - EPCD Watershed Group Gathering, May 15, 8:30am to 3:00pm, in Martinsburg. *RSVP by May 5* <http://wvivers.org/events/epwatershed-gathering/>
- 'Pushing up Daisies' Rain Garden Dedication, May 29, 1:00 pm at Greenway Cemetery
- Watershed Celebration Day, October 26 and 27 at Adventures at the Gorge

Secretary's Report – Minutes from the March 28, 2017 Board Meeting. Rebecca McLeod moved and Bob Wurster seconded that the minutes be approved as presented. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Andy Swaim passed out copies of the following:

- 2017 End-of-Year Report
- 2018 Proposed Budget – revenues and expenditures
- List of Physical Inventory
- Balance prior to today = \$20,143.26 Balance after debit = \$20,138.26
- Debits – Town of Bath license - \$5.00
- One bill to Morgan Messenger presented for payment - \$18.75. Betty Lou Harmison moved and Jeff Iliff seconded a motion to pay. Passed unanimously.

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- Approved by acclamation.

Committee Reports

- Membership Report Auditing Committee – Andy, Bob, and Gordon McLeod. Bob noted there were no discrepancies noted.
- Nominating Committee – Kate
 - Board of Directors Responsibilities
 - Election – Kate asked Holly Hook to come onto the board. Unanimously elected.
- Stream Monitoring – Norman Dean reported that we have seen some progress in Warm Springs Run; the bugs are coming back. Due to a recent oil spill, we should test to see if there has been a deleterious effect. Kate noted that the biggest problem in the stream is sediment. Norman also noted that our stream is doing better than others in the area. Discussion on what we could do to further improve the run, located in an urban watershed.
- Urban Tree Canopy Report – Cacapon Institute – Zach reported that they are trying to initiate an urban tree canopy plan in the entire watershed. A committee has been formed.
- Stream Partners Program Annual Report – Kate commented on the rain garden and other activities in the cemetery. The activities are capturing a significant amount of rainwater.
- Pet Waste Stations – Jeff Iliff, Bob Wurster, and Andy Swaim. Jeff reported that the waste stations have used 4,000 bags thus far or approximately a ton of dog poop that otherwise would have had the potential to contaminate the run.
- Adopt-a-Highway 2018 Schedule – Jeff Iliff reported that we are required to do cleanups at least three times per year to retain our Adopt-a-Highway sign. He suggested next Tuesday or Friday for the cleanup. It was decided that Tuesday, May 1 would work – 9:00 am at the old train depot lot.

Looking Ahead

- North Berkeley Rail Trail (NBRT) Report – Rebecca MacLeod gave an historical rundown on the rail trail, a project that started about five years ago. Have more recently been working with the Department of Highways and things are starting to move. A decision was made that the trail will start at the old train depot.
 - Federal Land Access Program Trail Sponsorship – to obtain some of this money, the region needs a transportation plan. Bill Clark has been working on such a plan; however, there must be a commitment to maintain the trail before any Federal funds can be provided. A suggestion was made at the last trail committee meeting that a non-profit could be formed to handle the trail maintenance. Kate noted that we should explore the possibility of becoming involved in sponsorship. John Webster suggested an Adopt-a-Trail program to help with maintenance. A motion was made by Stan Oaks, and seconded by Norman Dean, that we would take the lead on forming an alliance to move this rail trail project forward. The motion passed unanimously.

- Proposed US 522 Bypass – Rebecca reported that the proposed bypass would cross a stream at least seven times and cross several wetlands. She noted that the Association should send comments to the Department of Highways stating that we feel that specific mitigation be provided to counter the deleterious effects of the bypass construction. A motion was made by Stan Oaks, and seconded by Jeff Iliff, that the WSWA provide a comment letter, addressing pertinent mitigation concerns, to the Director of the Engineering Division, WV Department of Highways. Motion passed unanimously.
- Strategic Planning Task Force – Rebecca McLeod, Holly Hook, and Jeff Iliff volunteered to form a Strategic Planning Task Force.

Adjournment – 7:30pm