

**Minutes**  
**Warm Springs Watershed Association Board Meeting**  
**WVU Extension Office**  
**June 27, 2018**

**Attending:** Kate, Andy, Rebecca, Stan, Mike, Jeff, Betty Lou, Norman. **Excused:** Bob and Holly. **Guests:** Ron Jaininey, Susan Jones

**Guest Topics:**

**Ron Jaininey** is the plant manager for Berkeley Springs Water Works. He inquired about our interest in partnering with them in two areas: an alternative water supply for Berkeley Springs (ie. The Potomac River, or one of several local springs), and fund raising help for art work on the Fairview Water Tank. Kate made the point that 'our' interest is primarily in protecting the Run and both topics apply.

**Susan Jones** asked for our help in publicizing a local Potomac Valley Audubon Society presentation by Jim Cummins on Sept. 19 at 7 pm. We agreed to use our email, website and Facebook page to help.

Kate reviewed the topic that **Zach Norris**, who was unable to attend, would have presented. It is a Cacapon Institute Best Management Practices project to find private landowners willing to join in groups of 6 to obtain large discounts on purchases of trees to be planted and maintained by them. Trees would be picked up in Inwood for planting in October. There is a July 1 deadline for 'pre-proposals' that would indicate the willingness to form such a group. Susan Jones volunteered to file for this deadline. . A motion to this effect was made by Stan and seconded by Jeff; the vote was unanimous.

**Announcements and Reports**

The WV Watershed Celebration Day is October 26 and 27 at Adventures on the Gorge near Fayetteville, WV.

The Upper Run Reconnaissance Hike with US Silica on their property on 6/21 revealed several beautiful waterfalls on the run, even if access is difficult and the many railroad trestles make for difficult, slippery walking. Kate, Bob Wurster, Dale Wurster, Nico and Mike spent about 2 hours admiring this part of the run. There was not sufficient trash to justify a clean-up event. Rebecca will followup with US Silica about our willingness to explore the southern part of the run on their property from Jimstown Rd to Sandmine Rd.

Alana Hartman husband's funeral was on June 16 and several members attended. We signed a card for her at the meeting. Her phone is 304-993-6814, should people wish to reach out to her.

The Rain Garden Celebration held on May 29 was a huge success! About 30 people attended including the liaison for US Senator Capito's office.

**Secretary's Report**

The draft May 23 minutes were accepted as written.

**Treasurer's Report**

There were two debits: an \$89.94 reimbursement to Michael Brooks for payment of the website annual fee, and \$104.00 to Tree Works for mulch used in the rain garden on May 28. The bank account balance is \$20,274.57.

**Committee Reports**

Finance Committee:

There are two bills: a reimbursement to Kate for the \$26 fee for the annual report to the WV Secretary of State and a \$280 reimbursement to Jeff Iliff for fees associated with his attending the

Choose Clean Water conference in Lancaster, PA. A motion to pay these was put forward by Stan and seconded by Rebecca.

#### Advocacy

Jeff reported that work on the Mountain Valley Pipeline in central WV has been halted.

At the Choose Clean Water conference, he learned about a new web tool "Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST)". "It allows users to rapidly develop scenarios for reducing nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment with varying best management practices to streamline environmental planning. Costs are provided so users may select the most cost-effective practices to reduce pollutant loads."

Other subjects of value included photography and publicity techniques, how to avoid confrontation at work sites, and pocket gardens for water management.

#### Membership Report

The membership headcount is 49.

#### Program Committee

Kate's sister will be presenting at the Morgan County Fair, being held Aug 24-26 at the Senior Life Center north of Berkeley Springs.

#### Stream Monitoring

Norman stated that it is too wet and wild after the recent rains for stream monitoring.

#### Webmaster's Report

Photos from the June 2-3 flood and the June 21 US Silica upper run hike have been posted on Facebook and the website.

### **Unfinished Business**

2018 Stream Partners Grant Project involving hugelkultur. This will be a demonstration project at Greenway and will involve the Master Gardeners Club.

### **New Business**

2017 Mid-term Stream Partners Report: Kate will finish this soon.

Possible Grant Application for Second Rain Garden in Greenway: The recent rains have revealed a good location for a second rain garden. Although this is a 'Cemetery' project, we agreed to be involved as some maintenance is required in the grant application. There was consensus on support for this project.

Tree Maintenance Scheduling: Double T mulch and trimming work is now scheduled for July 24 at 9am. We will wait until cooler weather to do tree maintenance at other locations.

Weeding Wetlands Path: Someone should look at the Widmyer Wetlands area to determine what needs to be done.

Expo Display for Morgan County Fair: We will come up with a brochure and poster to promote the hugelkultur project as something people might want to do on their own property.

Watershed Celebration Day: We need an estimated attendance headcount to qualify for the \$200 scholarship. Kate will apply for a scholarship as well as submit our nomination for watershed association of the year.

Donations to the "Alana C. Hartman, Kaitlyn and Jocelyn Educational Fund" can be made directly to Andy by the next meeting. He will send a check to the fund from WSWA.

**Other:**

Jeff suggested that a polo type shirt with our name on it would be better value at meetings than our present full front photo t-shirt. This will be on next month's agenda.

Jeff also mentioned that the 'Water Reporter' phone app would be useful for all of us to use to publicize our association and learn about other watershed groups. Kate downloaded it and will register 'WSWA' as a user so we can be seen on it.

**Next Meeting: July 25, 2018**

**Adjournment at 7:53pm**