

Sleepy Hollow and Silver Creek Watershed Coalition

Meeting Minutes August 22, 2012

8th Plan Implementation Meeting

Present: Nancy Schietzelt, Elizabeth Maxwell, Ann Viger, Ken Krueger, Dave McLean, Lori McConville, Kerry Leigh, Kathy Bergan-Schmidt, Dennis Olekey, Neil O'Brien, Jeannine Smith, Sarah Berg

- I. **Welcome, Introductions and Minutes:** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Nancy Schietzelt. A sign in sheet was distributed. Minutes of the June 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed. A correction was made under Item 8 Other. Instead of a Lake Killarney update being presented, it should read that Dawn Thompson will have an update at the next meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.
- II. **Update on Watershed Plan:**
 - a. Nancy will send a letter thanking the following agencies for adoption of the plan: McHenry County, Oakwood Hills, Prairie Grove, Nunda Township, City of Crystal Lake, Algonquin Township, City of McHenry, Crystal Lake Park District, Environmental Defenders of McHenry County, McHenry County Conservation District, and The Land Conservancy. Nancy will verify whether or not the Village of Bull Valley has adopted the plan. The Village of Cary and the Cary Park District have not adopted the plan yet. Nancy will follow up with both.
 - b. Holly is working on the Draft Lake Addendum. An email from Dawn was distributed. (See attached.) Holly provided a partial report to the Lake Killarney HOA.
- III. **Communication Update:** Nancy will contact Lynn Rotunno who will develop a basic website at no charge. The domain registration runs out on November 23 – it is currently with FREP and will be moved to EDMC. Jeannine offered to help with researching a new provider if this doesn't work out.
- IV. **Water Quality Monitoring Report:** July data was provided by Ken and distributed via email. June data will be provided by Ken and distributed via email. Ken will add some comments to the raw data to help with interpretation. A discussion was held about the location, ownership and condition of Thunderbird Lake. Dave McClean will follow up on an issue brought to his attention about the possible damming or blocking of Sleepy Hollow Creek near Colby Point Rd. Nancy reported that MCDOT is collecting chloride runoff from the Loyola campus near the Parker Fen and will use the chloride for snow and ice prevention. Nancy also reported that the Fox River Study Group is looking for photos of algae blooms. These should be forwarded to Cindy Skrudrud.
- V. **Education Committee Report**
 - a. The coalition is cosponsoring two events at the Crystal Lake Park District – the Wanders with Wingate prairie tour and a workday. Information on both events is in the CLPD program brochure and online. Nancy will prepare a press release and put the events on Facebook. A second natural landscaping workshop will probably be held next spring.

- b. Other ideas for education: Walk/tour of Oakwood Hills fen, signage at projects within watershed, workday in the Oakwood Hills fen, possible workday next spring in Prairie Grove. Pamphlets and fliers were discussed. The group agreed we should take advantage of the many informational pieces already available. Many of these are posted on the McHenry County website.
- VI. Sign Committee Report:** Two signs have been installed. There are setback and size issues with the other signs. Ken, Jeannine and Kerry are working through the issues.
- VII. Coalition Logo:** It was agreed that the logo used on the signs will be used on letterhead for the coalition. Jeannine will work on a high resolution piece of artwork for the logo. Ann and Liz both stated that their agencies have graphic programs that could help if needed.
- VIII. Grant Updates:**
- a. IEPA Section 319 Grants – Kerry applied for a grant for the Oakwood Hills Fen.
 - b. Go to 2040 Local Tech Assistance Grant – Kerry is working with CMAP to look at local ordinances to make them more watershed friendly
- IX. Funding Ideas:** See email from Dawn for info on the USEPA Revitalizing Urban Waters and ILEPA Green Infrastructure grants. Oakwood Hills has in idea for a future IGIG grant to install filter strips at the end of roads that dead end into the lake. There is a possibility that Lake Killarney may be interested in a joint grant application in the future.
- X. 2012-2013 Projects:** No discussion due to time constraints.
- XI. Other:** Nancy reported there will be an MCDOT 2040 Transportation Plan open house at the City of Crystal Lake tomorrow from 2-7 PM. She urged everyone to attend and make comments especially that IDOT's ILAST document should be used on all road projects. There are workshops scheduled for September 19th, 20th, 26th and 27th to review the proposed McHenry County UDO. Nancy will attend and encouraged participation from the watershed group.
- XII. Next Meeting:** October 17 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM at the Prairieview Education Center.

Following is the information shared by Dawn Thompson that is referred to in the minutes.

- EPA Awarding \$2.7 Million to Revitalize Urban Waters: EPA is awarding \$2.7 million to 46 organizations in 32 states and Puerto Rico to help restore urban waters, support community revitalization and protect Americans' health. The grants range from \$30,000 to \$60,000 for projects across the country, including in a number of underserved communities. Recipients will promote the restoration of urban waters through community engagement and outreach, water quality monitoring and studies, and environmental education and training.

EPA's Urban Waters program supports the goals and principles of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, a partnership of 12 federal agencies working to reconnect urban communities with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies and collaborating with community-led revitalization efforts. For information on EPA's Urban Waters program and to view a list of the projects to be funded, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/urbanwaters/index.html>.

- It is with great joy that Illinois EPA can announce that there will indeed be a third round of Illinois Green Infrastructure Grants (IGIG). Once again the Agency will be accepting grant proposals received in our office (hard copy) until "close of business" on December 15, 2012. See <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/financial-assistance/igig.html> for application details, note: we are working on updating dates (i.e., 2011 to 2012). The second most received question is "when will grant awards be made?" Expect July 1, 2013 as the announcement date. If you have any questions please contact the Bureau of Water, Watershed Management Section at 217/782-3362. Thank you for your continued interest in restoring and protecting our Illinois waters.