



Item 8B.
BCWMC 10-16-14

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MINUTES

September 9, 2014

A meeting of the West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) was called to order by Diane Spector at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 9, 2014, at Plymouth City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth, MN.

Present were: Laura Jester, Bassett Creek WMC; Doug Baines, Elm Creek WMC; Michaela Neu and Tammy Schmitz, Mississippi WMO; Darren Lochner, Minnehaha Creek WD; Shelley Marsh, Brooklyn Center; Mike Roseneau, Eden Prairie; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Mary Anderson and Jenny Schaust, Watershed PREP Educators; Mary Karius, Hennepin County Environmental Services (HCES); Denis Hahn, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

1. Motion by Scharenbroich, second by Jester to approve the **Minutes*** of the June 10, 2014 meeting. *Motion carried.*

2. **Watershed PREP.**

a. **Update - 2014 Classes.** Thirty-five classes are scheduled or in process of being scheduled for Fall 2014. The Educators are continuing to approach schools for more classes, especially in the Bassett Creek watershed and Minneapolis. This is the third year of the program. The first year had 870 students, Fall 2013 had 978 students and Spring 2014 reached 1100 students.

Anderson proposed creating a video to train teachers to give the class for outstate Minnesota students.

Karius noted that the ROOT education grants can be awarded two years in a row for the same program and encouraged Schaust to re-apply.

Can PR around the program be generated? Robbinsdale School District has a PR program, but haven't attended a class yet. Educators haven't had much luck with local cable and newspapers.

Karius suggested a strategic planning session to identify opportunities and formalize the effort. Karius, Marsh, Anderson, Schaust, Spector and Juntunen will meet for a strategic planning session.

b. **Update - 2014 Events.** Schaust volunteered at the Storm Drain Goalie booth at the State Fair and talked to teachers about PREP which generated further interest.

New Hope City Day was attended by Schaust with the Enviroscope. There were over 100 attendees.

Jester has volunteers lined up for Golden Valley Days so Educators aren't needed to staff a booth there. Bassett Creek WMC will be in the Golden Valley Days parade.

Hennepin County Environmental Services requested Schaust to attend their retreat in Silver Park and do Lesson One for their staff.

Schaust will lead a student group on a storm drain stenciling project this October.

Jackson Middle School is having a mini-conference again on October 10 and requested two Educators to attend.

The MCWD held their creek cleanup on September 7. Pre-registration was 900 and there were education booths at the event, including the Storm Drain Goalie backdrop. Nearly three tons of trash was collected and the event was well-covered in the *Star Tribune*. Karius suggested following up with the *Star Tribune* to widen watershed cleanups beyond MCWD and requested the contact information for the person who did the MCWD story. Leinenkugel's

**in meeting packet*

BASSETT CREEK: Crystal • Golden Valley • Medicine Lake • Minneapolis • Minnetonka • New Hope • Plymouth • Robbinsdale • St. Louis Park

ELM CREEK: Champlin • Corcoran • Dayton • Maple Grove • Medina • Plymouth • Rogers

SHINGLE CREEK: Brooklyn Center • Brooklyn Park • Crystal • Maple Grove • Minneapolis • New Hope • Osseo • Plymouth • Robbinsdale

WEST MISSISSIPPI: Brooklyn Center • Brooklyn Park • Champlin • Maple Grove • Osseo

was a major sponsor of the MCWD cleanup, providing breakfast, lunch and free beer for participants as well as a canoe giveaway. Target also sponsored the cleanup, providing donated bottled water.

Upcoming MWMO events include non-toxic cleaner and education at North Mississippi Park and the Como cookout. A refill station is located at MWMO.

The City of Eden Prairie is hosting an open house in the second weekend of October. They will be passing out construction vests and rubber ducks for kids. Roseneau requested a copy of the rubber duck video if available. Jester asked Roseneau to let Leslie Stovring know that the Conservation Commission also wanted a booth at the open house.

3. 2014 Marketing Plan.

a. Partnership with Excelsior Brewery. Juntunen is working with Steve Woods at Freshwater Society on the coaster project. Baines requested the artwork and Jester requested a stack of coasters once available.

b. Guidebook for Commercial Properties. Jester sent number for four cities to Judie Anderson. A request will be sent to cities again for final numbers. The Guidebook will also be provided in electronic format to cities.

4. E-Newsletter – Water Links. Spector noted that Charter High School in St. Paul is doing a curriculum on drinking water and the program would make a good article. Karius will write an article re monitoring on 10 sites in the Elm Creek watershed. Spector will write a news release regarding the re-aeration structures grant.

Publication has been moved to quarterly with the next issue in October.

Article ideas: Watershed PREP, fall cleanups, city compost pick-up days.

5. Budget discussion. The 2015 budget is exactly the same as the 2014 budget. The 2016 budget review will begin later this year after strategic planning.

6. Other Business/Announcements. The Education and Natural Resources Grants through Hennepin County are currently open for RFPs through October 15. The next round will occur in spring 2015.

Members requested an annual activity report to provide to their watersheds and organizations.

7. The next WMWA meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 14.

8. Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen
Recording Secretary

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