

Euclid Creek Watershed Council Minutes

February 3, 2011, Beachwood Community Center

Present: Andrew Blackley (South Euclid); Jeff Filarski (Lyndhurst); Jane Goodman (South Euclid); Jim Kastelic (Cleveland Metroparks); Tom Kreczko (Beachwood); Ron Kobunski (Mayfield Heights); Claire Posius (Watershed Coordinator); David Roche (Richmond Heights); Jan Rybka (Cuyahoga SWCD); **Mayor Georgine Welo, Council President** (South Euclid)

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 am.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and Mr. Roche moved to approve the minutes from the November 2010 Council meeting and Mr. Kobunski seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the Council.

The nomination of the 2011 Council Chair was conducted, Mayor Welo accepted to serve a fifth term as Chair. *Mr. Kobunski made a motion for the nomination and Mr. Kreczko seconded the motion. All voted yes for Mayor Welo to continue a fifth term as Chair.*

The group agreed to nominate a Vice Chair for the second year in a row to serve in place of the Chair if an emergency comes up. Mayor Welo suggested that Mr. Roche serve as the Vice Chair. *Mayor Welo made a motion for the nomination and Mr. Kobunski seconded the motion. The group voted unanimously for David Roche to serve as the Vice Chair to the ECWC.*

The Watershed Coordinator provided an update to the Council on PIPE program activities. She passed out the summary report for all education and involvement events that happened in 2010, highlighting the Euclid Adopt-a-Beach group raising \$2,400 for trash/recycling bins to be installed at Euclid Beach. The Coordinator then went over 2011 PIPE Activities which will be reviewed/ approved by the PIPE Committee next week. She went over the 2011 education theme addressing illicit discharge / illegal dumping in communities to be called "Steer Clear of Pollutants". The Coordinator then went over events in each Watershed community planned so far. The next update was about the 2010 PIPE Annual reports which will be delivered at the end of February, unless a community requests their report earlier. The Coordinator will go over the Outreach Strategy with the PIPE Committee next week, which will be delivered with the Annual PIPE reports. In addition, the Coordinator will prepare the PIPE portion of the five year Stormwater Management Plan which is due to OEPA in 2011. She will deliver this by March 15.

The Watershed Coordinator presented the 2011 work plan to the Council and noted that no substantial changes were made, except for rearranging project priorities based upon the GLRI funded project. *Mayor Welo made a motion to accept the work plan. Mr. Roche seconded the motion. All members present voted to accept the 2011 Watershed Coordinator work plan.*

The Coordinator next gave project updates on the East Branch Dam Removal project which was followed by a slideshow of the construction. Mr. Blackley asked how Engineering costs could be so high (\$145,000 for Burgess & Niple design/engineering); the Coordinator explained that the bridge stability concerns increased the engineering costs and the \$145,000 included the NEORSD construction oversight management and permits. The Coordinator next updated the Committee on the Lacustrine Refuge GLRI Habitat project and the RFP, Design/Build Team selection process; the NEORSD-FOEC 2010 Watershed Program Status grant; and the fact that this is the last year of the ODNR Watershed Coordinator Grant. The Coordinator will apply for another ODNR Watershed Coordinator Grant if the funds are available, which is questionable with state funding issues. The Coordinator next updated the group on her 2011 WRRSP application for Mayfair and that a landowner strategy would need to be developed with project partners soon.

Jan Rybka, District Administrator, with additions from Jane Goodman, gave an update on the Euclid Creek Program and the ReLEAF grant application submitted last month to be considered for Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF). The presentation is available upon request. Mr. Roche said a good topic to address is the conflict of utility companies clear cutting trees in excessive distances from lines and the frustration it causes Cities, to which everyone agreed including Mr. Kastelic from the Metroparks. Ms. Goodman stated that they hope to work with utility companies through the ReLeaf grant process to discuss these same issues.

The Coordinator then passed out information on a new loan program through ODOD, the Alternative Stormwater Infrastructure Loan and she said she'd pass along new grant opportunities to the project partners as she finds out about them.

The Committee discussed potential topics for the next Technical Committee meeting in 2011. Mr. Blackley liked the idea of having a refresher on the Ordinance updates required between June and October of this year and to have that in the next month or two. He also expressed interest in having someone talk about emerging BMP's like the Filtrex compost socks that CSWCD technical staff would support. He also mentioned having someone come out and present to the Service Directors on Good Housekeeping, to which Filarski responded that the Service Director's Association will most likely be conducting that training in 2011; if not, the Coordinator would facilitate that training.

The next topic was to discuss potential speakers for 2011 Watershed Council Meetings. One suggestion was to have Director Zimmerman come and talk about the Metroparks Strategic Planning process and how Euclid Creek could be addressed (maybe some time in the Fall, Kastelic recommended). Mayor Welo suggested having a spring meeting at the Koehn business overlooking the 9-mile marsh to show off that wetland BMP. Mayor Welo also suggested having Stephen Love come and talk to the group about his great work leading the Adopt-a-Beach group.

The Coordinator next discussed the most recent Winter 2010 newsletter and Annual PIPE Report delivered to the communities, and all agreed that one annual report was more effective than quarterly updates with much repeated information. The Coordinator discussed an initiative Chagrin River Watershed Partners got funded through Ohio Lake Erie Protection Fund; a regional storm water website currently on the GreenCityBlueLakeWebsite that communities can link to or put on their website in whole. Topics range from 'good housekeeping' to dealing with a 'wet backyard' and many other topics. The Coordinator would like this up on the Cuyahoga SWCD website shortly so the communities can link to it.

The last topic addressed Ordinances; the only update was that Lyndhurst is evaluating Beachwood's Rain Barrel ordinance language. The Coordinator reminded the communities about the Phase II required updates to the Erosion and Sediment and Post Construction Code Changes required by 2011. She passed around the handout of when each community would be required to have these changes incorporated into their ordinances (dates range from June to October of 2011).

Jane Goodman updated the group on an event Cuyahoga RAP is hosting on May 19th with the RAP Watershed Groups called the State of the River Symposium and she encouraged ECWC participation.

The next Watershed Council meeting was scheduled for June 16, 2011 and will be held either in Mayfield Village, Cleveland, or Highland Heights.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 am.

Minutes compiled by Claire Posius, Watershed Coordinator