

Euclid Creek Watershed Council Minutes
March 21, 2019 – Mayfield Heights Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Chuck Brunello (Highland Heights), Chris Cheraso (Cleveland Metroparks), Mayor Anthony DiCicco (Mayfield Heights), Jeff Filarski (Lyndhurst), Sterling Fitzgerald (Watershed Resident), Joseph Fornaro (Mayfield Heights), Jennifer Heard (Cleveland), Elizabeth Hiser (Cuyahoga SWCD), Dough Metzong (Mayfield Village), **Mayor David Roche, Vice Council Chair (Richmond Heights)**, Jan Rybka (Cuyahoga SWCD), Laura Travers (Euclid), **Chris Vild, Council Chair (Beachwood)**, Chuck Zibbel (Highland Heights)

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 am.

Motion to approve minutes:

The Chair called the meeting to order. Mayor DiCicco then moved to approve the minutes from the July 26 Council meeting as is, and Chuck Zibbel seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the Council.

Nominations:

Council Chair

The nomination of the 2019 Council Chair was conducted. *Mayor Roche made a motion to nominate Chris Vild for the Chair position and Mayor DiCicco seconded the motion. All voted yes for Chris Vild to serve his sixth term as Chair.* Ms. Hiser congratulated Mr. Vild and thanked him for his past 5 years of service.

Council Vice Chair

The nomination of the 2019 Vice Council Chair was conducted after thanking Mayor Roche for serving the past four years as Vice Chair. *Chris Vild made a motion to nominate Mayor Roche for the Vice Chair position, and Doug Metzong seconded the motion. Nominations were closed and the Council voted unanimously for Mayor Roche to serve as the Vice Chair of the ECWC for a fifth term.* Mr. Vild congratulated Mayor Roche and thanked him for his past 4 years of service.

Euclid Creek Watershed Program Updates:

The Watershed Program Manager gave a presentation to council on Euclid Creek 2018 programs, projects and partnerships. This presentation was created to present on 2018 activities to NEORS board members in support of the \$40,000 service agreement they awarded to Friends of Euclid Creek for 2018 staff hours and project materials.

Ms. Hiser let council members know that all MCM 1 and MCM 2 annual reports are complete.

Ms. Hiser then mentioned that the 2019 PIPE Work Plan was approved at the February 21st PIPE Committee Meeting. This year's theme is Runoff Reduction.

Ms. Hiser announced the Euclid Creek Watershed Champion Campaign which will encourage watershed residents to act in their yards and communities to restore Euclid Creek health. Champions who take the pledge will receive a yard sign.

The Watershed Program Manager next went over the draft 2019 Euclid Creek Watershed Council Work Plan. New grants include: NEORSD-FOEC Watershed Organization Service Program 2019, Hawken Lyndhurst – Tree Planting, South Euclid – Ninemile Rain Garden and Native Landscape Beds. 2 grants are in holding pattern due to funding and land use license agreements: Cleveland Clinic-Lyndhurst Campus – Stream Restoration Project, Mayfield Sand Ridge -Lyndhurst– Stream Restoration.

Motion to approve work plan: Doug Metzger motioned to approve the work plan, Mayor Roche seconded. The work plan was approved by the Council.

The Watershed Program Manager then presented to the group about the NPSIS updates and input needed from communities and agencies to submit the newest version of the NPSIS to Ohio EPA for review and approval.

Jeff Filarski indicated that the timing of the NPSIS updates coincide with NEORSD Master Planning for the Chagrin River and Lake Erie Tributaries (From Doan Brook East to Chagrin River). Chris Vild questions if NEORSD will fund projects from the master planning and NPSIS reports. Ms. Hiser indicated that NEORSD will support projects on the regional system and that they will encourage communities to utilize cost share funds for smaller projects not on the regional system.

Mayor's Breakfast Discussion:

Ms. Hiser mentioned last year's summit in Euclid and how it highlighted the City.

FOEC has suggested a Mayor's Breakfast this year in lieu of a Watershed Summit. Mayfield Village is willing to host. The group discussed. Mr. Vild indicated that FOEC is on board with a Mayor's Breakfast if it is organized by Cuyahoga SWCD and that Tinkers Creek has had successful Mayor's Breakfast events in the past. Mayor Roche indicated we will need to avoid Managers Meetings in each community. Proposed to alternate each year between a summit and Mayor's Breakfast. Ms. Hiser will send a doodle poll to group to choose date for Mayor's Breakfast in October or November.

Additional Business Discussed:

Chris Vild let council know about events planned for Beachwood:

June 1st and 2nd a Rain Barrel Painting Event will be hosted at the Beachwood Service Center with food and possibly music. Artists will be there to help residents paint their rain barrels. Friends of Euclid Creek will pay for half the cost of barrels.

There will also be a rain barrel painting contest, artists will compete in a juried panel for 10 barrels to go on display at the Beachwood Community Center in August. There will be a meet and greet with artists on August...

On August 8th FOEC will hold a Lake Erie Series Panel with talks from NEORSD on the Deep Tunnels, Cuyahoga Board of Health on Fish Consumption, and Ohio Sea Grant on Land Use Impacts to Lake Erie and Algal Blooms.

Laura Travers indicated that on August 16th she will be hosting Highland Heights Green Task Force for a WWTP tour at the Euclid facility from 1:30 – 3 pm.

Mayor Roche highlighted the Richmond Heights Home Days on July 7th at the Community Park.

Details are still to be determined for the fall festival, likely seconded Saturday in September.

Sears is being removed from the Richmond Heights Mall and replaced with Mixed Use Development. They have also purchased the downstream basin that treats runoff from the mall which may provide opportunities for enhancement.

Mayor Roche met with the new airport manager Robert Hartigan to talk about options for Mayfair Lake. The airport has issues with geese and have built new retention areas related to wetland disturbance from airport construction.

The City has had flooding issues on Richmond Rd. and has used cost share dollars to support resurfacing.

NOERSD is currently working on a small restoration project for Claribel Creek.

Richmond Heights also had Greenwood Farm connected to sewers and now there are just a few septic's left in the City near the airport.

Chuck Zibbel mentioned that NEORSD has helped with a Highland Brainard design and stream restoration project and Highland Basin Cleanup.

Mayor Roche indicated they would appreciate any extra water retainment that could be provided by the Highland basin due to downstream flooding issues.

Joe Fornaro indicated that NEORSD is currently working on a stream restoration project at Stone Creek.

Chris Vild indicated that Communities should report projects like these in their MS4 annual report.

Chris Cheraso talked about Acacia and how currently the Metroparks will step back and watch how their restoration efforts are working. They are looking into options for less mowing along Cedar Road and the possibility of added boardwalks and trails. CMP will focus on making sure safety and vision are top priorities as well as protecting steep slopes.

Jeff Filarski mentioned that plans to reduce mowing should be brought to Mayor Ward and Beachwood.

The Hovanian property in Richmond Heights will be added to Euclid Creek Reservation and CMP is looking into the possibility of adding an overlook, trail, and pedestrian bridge to connect the parcel to Welsh Woods Picnic Area.

Mayor Roche mentioned concerns about dumping of construction debris from other projects at the Hovanian property. Mayor Roche also indicated resident concerns about managing outside traffic and where people would enter the new property.

Ms. Hiser will send out a doodle poll to schedule the next Watershed Council meeting in July.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM. (Motioned by Dough Metzong, seconded by Chris Vild).

Minutes compiled by Elizabeth Hiser, Euclid Creek Watershed Program Manager