

Raccoon Creek Partnership board meeting,
December 6, 2017.
The Ridges, Building 22, 214

In attendance: Molly Gurien(Chair), Heike Perko (vice chair), Jess Makosky (Treasurer), Amy Mackey (Watershed Coordinator), Glenn Stout, Angie Cameron, Abby Costilow (AmeriCorps Member), Emily Keil-Loudner (AmeriCorps Member), Nora Sullivan, and Jennifer Somerville. Chair Molly Gurien determined we have a quorum.

Action items in bold underlined

Introduction of new members.

Treasurer's report.

After the annual dinner

-We deposited \$1,550.00 into our general checking & kept \$50 in petty cash in our cash box

Annual Dinner Donation Breakdown:

Memberships:	\$355
Americorps:	\$220
General Donations:	\$102
Silent Auction:	\$649
50/50 Raffle:	<u>\$51</u>
	\$1,377

Other money deposited from the cash box:

ROAR	\$20 general donation
Bandana/Map sales	\$29
Fall Float Donations	\$42
Natalie & Nigel	\$100

<u>Account</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
Share Savings	\$31.84	\$31.84
DOW Grant	\$1,861.67	\$1,861.67
RCWTA	\$3,124.50	\$3,124.50
NANFA	\$723.32	\$723.32
Business Checking	\$13,233.03	\$14,380.45

Minutes: November meeting minutes were approved.

Election of officers. Chair Molly Gurien read description of duties of officers. The position of secretary is currently open. Molly, Heike and Jess are currently holding office are all willing to continue. Nora will take the position of vice chair and Heike will move from vice chair to secretary. **Nora will take notes for today's meeting.**

2018 RCP Board of Directors officers were voted in as follows:

- Chair – Molly Gurien
- Vice Chair – Nora Sullivan
- Treasurer – Jess Makosky
- Secretary – Heike Perko

Watershed coordinator's update:

- Amy gave a little bit of background about Raccoon Creek Partnership employee history. Funding is decreasing for watershed work, and with a decreased amount of work to do in AMD restoration in Raccoon Creek, Sarah will not be replaced with a new employee at this time. Amy will be able to cover all of the Raccoon Creek work because she and Sarah had been splitting it anyway.
- Chemical sampling is picking up again. No Raccoon bio sampling in 2017 but will resume in 2018. Full year monitoring will happen in 2018 and will be looking for GOOD volunteers. **Molly mentioned that she has a student interested in helping with monitoring she will put him in touch with Amy.** Student's name is Connor Blevins.
- In 2016 Ohio EPA did an assessment of Raccoon Creek. The last time it was done was in the late 90s early 2000's before completion of Raccoon Creek AMD projects. The report is still in draft but the EPA will be recommending that the lower 40 miles from Vinton park to the mouth will be reclassified as exceptional warm water habitat. From the lowhead dam in Vinton County up to Mitchell hollow will be classified as warm water habitat. Little Raccoon Creek will be Warm Water Habitat, and Hewett Fork will be Modified Warm Water Habitat. Once the report is public, we should do press releases and contact elected officials and make this a really big deal because it is.
- Glenn recommends looking very closely at Mine Hollow wetland. Amy said that they have determined that it is not impacting Raccoon Creek at this time.
- We received an invitation to join membership in Buckeye Hills RC&D. Jess made a motion that we become members, Nora second. Motion passed. **Jess will pay membership**
- We received a letter from Friends of Scioto Brush Creek and a brochure along with money for T-shirts. Something to think about if we want to also become members of the friends of Scioto Brush Creek.
- The DOW Aquatic Education grant still has money to spend. \$500 for Family Outdoor Day food. The NAFNA grant purchased signs for Family Outdoor day and will purchase a fish tank for Waterloo. **Amy will set it up before spring events.**
- The holiday mailing went out this week thanks to Jennie Brancho and the AmeriCorps and we need to send that to the elected officials. **AmeriCorps will do this.**
- Amy made a request that we give Sarah and Eric Cornwell their T-shirts, rather than making them pay for them, in thanks for all of Sarah's service. The board agreed.
- We need to submit all the dates for public use of Waterloo 20 DNR. **If anyone knows they're going to need Waterloo for an event please let Amy know ASAP. Amy will submit the request in early January**

AmeriCorps update:

Abby:

- Tentative Owl Prowl date is January 23, 2017 it's a Tuesday at Lake Hope. *Date changed to Feb 1!
- April 14 is the spring day camp date.
- May 26 is family fun day.
- June 18 the 22nd and July 16-20 are the summer camp dates for 2018. *Only having June camp this summer
- Gourmet Your Way is a possible fundraising opportunity but it has been a strange email exchange and there are apparently limitations and strange expectations that she will continue to look into.

Emily:

- Gracie at Casa contacted the AmeriCorps to let them know that RCP will be charity of the month for May at Casa. We all noted May is an excellent month for this as it is graduation and Cinco de Mayo.
- AmeriCorps sent out thank you's for the annual dinner, and are planning on working on the winter newsletter. **Please send articles and photos to include in the newsletter.**

Water Trails update – Molly

- Molly is planning a skills and work training in April or May, **AmeriCorps and Molly will send out a blurb to try and get participation.**
- Molly would really like for the signs to be installed they were paid for by a grant and we agreed to get them in. Jennie Brancho has been working on this and has a list of landowners to be approved. Once that's approved AmeriCorps can move forward on the site selection for installations. **Molly will work with Jennie to finalize list of landowners to contact.**
- Usually the Water Trail does the spring and fall float but unpredictable flows in the spring can make it difficult so we may only do a fall float this year.
- The stream sweep is Saturday, June 16 this year there's a possibility we could use that as a float as well. **Need to decide at January meeting**

Planning initiatives for 2018

- Fundraising committee has a meeting January 18 6:00 p.m. in rm 214 in building 22 at the Ridges.
- Waterloo - after December 2018 ODNR DOW wants to charge \$200 dollars/month for use of the building but will not do any upkeep or maintenance nor is it really in usable condition at this point so we need a Waterloo committee meeting to decide next steps. Mostly what we need is storage for all of our stuff at Waterloo. **Will plan a meeting in February.**

Announcements / Other Business

The January meeting will be 25 January. We have changed to Thursdays because that's a better day for most.

Jess inquired what to do with the ballots from the election **Amy will shred them.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.