Raccoon Creek Board Meeting

Thursday, May 27th, 2021

Action items in red

Present: Nora Sullivan, Emily Keil-Loudner, Amy Mackey, Chris Kimmel, Matt Davis, Ashley Smith, Kelly Love, Sarah Maj, Glenn Stout

Minutes scribed by: Emily Keil-Loudner

Quorum established and meeting started at 6:45 PM.

* **Action Items**
  + Nora
    - register boats
    - send out poll for next meeting
  + AmeriCorps
    - talk to Nancy to cross post for summer camp
    - put up flyers for summer camp at libraries
* **Treasurer’s Report**
  + Nora made a motion to:
    - Remove Sarah Landers-Cornwell and Jessica Makosky from RCP OUCU account
    - Add Sarah Maj to RCP OUCU account
    - Amy Mackey is able to make deposits
    - Emily seconds
    - All approve and motion passes
  + Sarah got taxes and Charitable Registration done!
* **Watershed Coordinator Update** 
  + Raccoon Creek sampling
    - Doing all Raccoon Creek biology this summer (20 sites)!
    - Amy is doing most of the coordinating and will keep people updated if they want to help
    - Starting at Big Sandy Run the week of June 7th
    - Originally, this was going to be 2022, but EPA is doing the large river sites (this includes sites in Raccoon Creek) this year and we try to coordinate the samplings on the same year
    - Next year will be Sunday and Monday Creek sampling
  + East Branch steel slag maintenance under way
  + Sites in West Branch of Raccoon Creek (including Ilesboro) was own by Boltons, who are now selling the land. Amy met new landowner and they seem nice and excited.
  + Hired one new AmeriCorps member, Kelsey Daniels.
    - Note post meeting: second member hired, Ashley Grace
  + Scenic Rivers Project
    - Worked on by student of Natalie Kruse
    - Need to check in with
  + Vinton Low Head Dam
    - Amy working on 9 element plan (sent in today!)
    - This is required to submit a 319 grant
    - Amy talked to owner, they are willing to learn more!
  + Carbondale doser cleaning
  + Story Map published!
  + People have been asking about our annual dinner and it its in person
    - Fingers crossed it is!
  + Apple Trees
    - Grafted 100 apple trees
    - Got recycle pots from Rural Action
    - Got compost from Perkos (Thanks Heike!)
    - Most look great but won’t take tape off until end of June
* **AmeriCorps Update**
  + River Sweep
    - June 12th
    - Sticking to smaller groups
    - Near Moonville Rail Trail
  + Macro event on Saturday with Museum Complex at the Ridges
  + Spring Day Camp Kits
    - 200 Kits
    - Lots of positive reviews
    - Had extra activity books
  + Summer Camp
    - Week of July 19th
    - Self-guided summer camp with virtual content
    - Backpack with assortment of activities
    - Everyone will check in each morning to go over activities
    - Currently have 6 kids signed up, max number is 30
      * Currently only open to members
      * Opens up to everyone Monday, May 31st
      * Maybe put cap on enrollment period?
    - Waiting to hear back from grant
      * May need to have back up plan if grant doesn’t pan out
      * Asked for $5,000 in the grant
      * Ashley and Kelly think $3000 would be enough
      * Matt moves to set aside $3000 for camp
        + Chris seconds
        + All approve and motion passes
      * Nora register boats
      * Americorps talk to Nancy to cross post
      * Americorps put flyers in libraries
    - Chris says his store can be pickup point for backpacks
    - If we get grant and there is a smaller number of campers, RCP could pay for in-person family float at Raccoon Creek Outfitters
  + Life After AmeriCorps
    - Ashley: working with MBI (Midwest Biodiversity Institute) doing microwork (yay!)
    - Kelly: grad school at OU Voinovich School working with Natalie Kruse and Kelly Johnson
* **New Business/Announcements/Next Meeting**
  + What does the board want to do?
    - Weekend biology demo with the board!!!
    - More community engagement
    - Could do project tours, especially at doser
    - Could do kits that libraries could rent out
    - RCP activity magazine
  + Nora will send out pull for next meeting
  + Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.