Raccoon Creek November Meeting

Wednesday, January 2023 at 6:30 pm

Present: Kelsey Daniels, Ashley Grace, Nora Sullivan, Amy Mackey, Chris Kimmel, Emily Keil-Loudner, Kelly Love, Sarah Maj, Kate Blyth, Nichole Mazzone

Minutes scribed by: Nichole Mazzone

* **Danger! No peeling citrus fruits near Kate!!**
* **Action Items- Completed**
	+ Display board in progress
	+ Map for display board in progress
	+ Received the Aquatic Education Grant funds
	+ Raccoon Creek Water Trail website updated to merge with RCP
	+ Initial meeting with Pat Quackenbush’s class
* **New Action Items**
	+ Owl Prowl set up on Feb 9th @ 5pm – Anyone who can help
	+ Send out social media announcements about owl pellet kits @ local libraries- AmeriCorps
	+ Ask Pat Q. at Owl Prowl to bring birds to Summer Camp 2023- AmeriCorps
	+ Ask Molly for her insight for Spring Newsletter- AmeriCorps
	+ Ask Molly to hangout for a casual farewell party- Amy
	+ Send out a list of articles to potentially write about for Spring Newsletter- AmeriCorps
	+ Send recruitment prospects for new AmeriCorps to Amy & Nora- Everyone (Ashley will mention to classmates). Amy will send recruitment materials when she gets them from Rural Action.
	+ Send RCP structure/fundraising history and agenda to Pat Q. for his students to work on fundraising project- Nora
	+ Talk to Vinton Town Mayor to see what community needs/wants are for the new park; potential for T-Mobile Hometown Grant- Chris
	+ Conversation with the Conservation Club (meet every 2nd Wed. @7pm)- Amy & friends. Scheduled for March 8th.
* **Treasurer's report**
	+ Annual dinner monies deposited
	+ Membership donations deposited
	+ Used $150 of Ouidel grant for canoe trailer supplies (in Oct 2022)
	+ Aquatic Education Grant 2022 is completely spent (funds were deposited in general checking because they have already been spent)
	+ Rickly Hydrological assist net (no receipt; from AEG)
	+ ~$2K transferred from PayPal account
* **Watershed Coordinator Update**
	+ Scenic Rivers Designation meeting **1/26/23-** Amy
		- Amy is now a board member on Ohio Scenic Rivers Association - meeting on **1/29/23-** Amy
	+ Biological data (2021 and 2022) to be submitted to OEPA
* Submitting annual IACU report (allows us to conduct fish sampling)
	+ Proposal to restart 2 USGS gage stations in Raccoon Creek
	+ ODNR Mineral Resources willing to continue to provide funding for watershed support
* **AmeriCorps Update**
	+ OWL PROWL- **February 9th** @ Lake Hope (downstairs) from 6-8pm
		- Set-up by 5pm (4pm to eat)
		- AmeriCorps will send out social media announcements about owl pellet kits that can be picked up from the library(es)
		- Pat Q. and Kaylin will be bringing owls and friends
	+ Summer Camp **July 17th- 21st** @ RC outfitters
		- Sign up March 13th for members and 15th for non-members
		- Will submit another Aquatic Education Grant for 2023
			* $80 Registration fee (scholarship likely available for anyone needed)
			* Will have a boomerang person
			* ODNR DOW wildlife officer Chris Gilkey and canine officer Mattis
			* ODNR DOW Fish shocking demo
			* Tracking/Survivalist – Meghan Ellis
			* Asking Pat at Owl Prowl to bring birds
	+ Spring Newsletter
		- Will contact Molly for her insight and final goodbye- AmeriCorps
		- Kelsey will send out a list of articles to potentially write about if anyone is interested
		- Will ask Molly to hangout for a casual farewell party- Amy
	+ Apple tree grafting- root stocks ordered will be sent to Ridges ~**March 15th** (Voinovich people watch out for delivery- will need to be refrigerated ASAP)
		- Event will be **April 16th** – limited to 50 people
		- Knives will be ordered
		- Need to find a location
	+ Will phase out Water Trail Association from website since group has disbanded (still part of non-profit)
	+ Sandbox at test run stage- Kelly working on that
	+ Ashley and Kelsey will be leaving us in August (BOOOOOO ☹) but need to think about recruitment- Send to Amy & Nora
* **Fundraising**
	+ Met with Pat Q.’s capstone class to help RCP plan and implement fundraising events/techniques
		- Nora will send RCP structural plan/financial history to Pat
		- Agendas for Pat’s students
1. Fundraising plan
2. Outreach (outside of Athens)
3. Marking efforts
4. Event planning
* **New Business**
	+ T-Mobile hometown grant
		- Project funding for revitalizing or creation of community space to promote togetherness- up to 50K
			* 3-5 grant proposal
			* Budget breakdown
			* Up to 5 letters of support
			* Application open each “season”
		- Idea: Vinton - (where dam is) has a park- are there improvements we could make to the park with this grant?
			* Chris will talk to Vinton Mayor to see what community needs/wants are for the park
	+ Conservation Club wants Amy to come talk to them – every 2nd Wed @7pm
	+ Next Meeting: Thursday, February 23rd at 6:30 PM