**Raccoon Creek Partnership Board of Directors May 2023 Meeting**

Wednesday, June 21st, 2023, at 6:30 pm, The Ridges, (Shelter House), Athens, Ohio

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

Minutes scribed by: Nichole Mazzone

* **Action Items- Completed**
  + Cash box money deposited to bank- Kelly
  + New Treasurer training- Nora, Kate, Kelly
  + Family Outdoor Day- 36 attendees (weather was a deterrent)
  + Registered for Paw Paw Festival- Nora
  + kayak picked-up from REI Columbus- Nora
* Kayak and Duck Derby advertise @ Family Outdoor Day
* Updates from Vinton Village for T mobile Hometown Grant- Chris
* **New Action Items**
  + Need to purchase new kayak straps ASAP (before camp)- **AmeriCorps**
  + Meeting to finalize T-mobile Hometown grant for Vinton Village- **Nichole, Kate, Kelly**
    - * Complete Letter of Support (LOS) from RCP- **Kelly** 
        + Summarize how to complete LOS – **Kelly**
      * Reach out to Shannon Mayes for a LOS- **Amy**
  + Ask about tabling for First Friday Events in Gallipolis- **Chris**
  + Ask about tabling Vinton Bean Dinner Aug 5th - **Amy**
  + Create a list of potential fundraising ideas for next year (timeline included)- **AmeriCorps**
* Look into Nelsonville Final Friday
* “Creek Jam” – historically held at Eclipse, Little Fish, Jackie Os
* Bean dinners
  + Determine date for DNAP Scenic River Board to tour RC by river float- **Amy**
    - Ask RCO what dates would work for them- **Amy**
    - Create Doodle Poll of potential dates- **Nichole**
  + Plan Watershed tour**- Amy & Nora**
  + Continue to send AmeriCorps recruitment prospects to Amy- **ALL**
* **Treasurer's report (see OUCU summary at the end of the meeting minutes)**
  + Financial tracking sheet made for cash box!!
  + Old accounts that are no longer used were or will be closed out
  + RCWTA will be deposited into RCP general checking
  + DOW Step Outside Grant was received, deposited and spent
  + New life jackets and storage tubs were purchased (DOW Step Outside funds, old Quidel Funds)
  + Multiple deposits +
  + Summer Camp purchases made (still waiting to receive DOW Aquatic Education Grant but these purchases will be covered by grant) -
  + Registration for Paw Paw complete –
  + Kayak purchased –
* **Watershed Coordinator Update**
  + Still need another AmeriCorps member!
  + The Nature Conservancy asked for a project in Raccoon/Symmes HUC for possible mitigation funds
    - Amy will contact landowner Vinton low-head dam to see if she is interested
    - TNC could potentially purchase property and complete project if landowner is interested.
  + Scheduling chemical and biological sampling work in Raccoon, Campaign, and Little Storms
    - Bio in Sandy Run, Campaign, Little Storms
    - Chemistry throughout Raccoon and Campaign
    - EPA reviewing study plan for 2023-2024
  + Broken ARO maintenance is ongoing. Project is in need of a lot of maintenance. Did get Lake Milton valve flushed and flowing. Will visit site again soon.
  + Watershed tour for board members and partners?
  + Getting caught up on chemical sampling so that biology can start soon
* **AmeriCorps Update**

**Completed:**

* + Completing final report for Step Outside
  + Purchasing supplies for Summer Camp

**Upcoming:**

* Summer Camp- **July 17th- 21st** **@ RC outfitters**- FULL
  + New kayak straps need purchased BEFORE CAMP
  + Have volunteers for each day but can always use more
  + Kate will bring Kayaks Friday (Amy will send location)
  + Sebastian will drive OU van
* Will reorganize RCP room in Ridges Bldg 21
* Duck Derby – New AmeriCorps- **Oct. 7th, 2023, 11:00 a.m.**
* **Fundraising/Events**
* Gallipolis “First Fridays” Events – Aug 4 Chris can attend
* Vinton Bean Dinner – Aug 5 Kate can attend
* Brainstorm fundraising/tabling ideas for next year
  + Nelsonville Final Friday’s
  + Bean Dinners
  + “Creek Jams” – events with breweries, restaurants, etc
* **New Business**
  + Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 26st at 6:30 PM @ Ridges Bldg 22 Rm 214 (unless otherwise indicated)