

The Chicopee River Watershed Council's
Monthly Meeting
March 03, 2005

Meeting Called to order:

Called to order by: Chairman Mike G.

Time: 7:15 PM

Place: The Indian Orchard Partnership Office 145 Main St. Indian Orchard

Members Present:

Chairman: Mike Garvey

Vice Chairman & Secretary: Rick Dunderdale

Treasurer: Ralph Shrewsbury

Tony Zupkowski

Paul Adkins

Guest Present:

Fred Andrews Indian Orchard Community Partnership

Gynnie Robnett, Jered Sasen - Massachusetts Community Water
Watch/MASSPIRG

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STCC Mass Pirg

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Agenda Review:

Excepted

Minutes Review:

Excepted

Treasurer's report:

Balance as of 01/27/05	\$8,129.63
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Deposits – cash	\$16.50
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Debit by check # 362	\$105.00
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Balance as of 01/27/05	\$8,043.20
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Excepted

Water Sampling Program (update):

Jered Sasen - Massachusetts Community Water Watch/MASSPIRG was there to update the Council on the pond and lake temperature study of the Springfield area. Jered was pleased to inform the council that him and Mike Russell was able to do one more round of testing by accessing the water through "ice fishing holes". Jered reminded the council that during March ice on the lakes and ponds will become unsafe for walking on. This will delay testing till the waterways become open to boating.

Water Watch/MASSPIRG Education out-reach (update):

Gynnie Robnett of Massachusetts Community Water Watch/MASSPIRG was present to update the council on the success of the education out-reach program, and to present an article that describes the program with photos. The article and the photos are to be published both on the Council's web site and in the Council's newsletter

In brief:

- Water Watch organizers, special VIP guest teachers, and volunteers traveled the state giving guest presentations in K-7 grade classrooms.
- The lessons focused specifically on water pollution and what students can do about it.
- Water Watch visited more than 10 cities, including Boston, Salem, Lowell, Worcester, Somerville, New Bedford, Fall River, Springfield and Westfield.
- The group spent two days in the Springfield/Westfield area to educate over 400 students about some of today's most pressing water quality issues, and by the end of the week 3,000 students were educated across the state.

Gynnie Robnett reminded the Council that there are still about 15 more classrooms to be visited.

Gynnie Robnett raised the point that materials in the water testing kits are running low and need to be replenished. Mike G. had brought with him a catalog to do just that and offered to help with it.

Transitional Planning / Outreach:

- Mike G. announced his intentions to lessen his roll on the Council and will not be running for chairperson in June. Mike G. stated he will be putting his energies in other areas but will still be available from time to time for both meetings and or resources.
- Mike G. suggested that the Council should be pro-active in seeking out new active members to share the burden of running the Council. Mike G. suggests targeting different groups in a mailing. Suggesting from around the table: Science Teachers, Scout Masters, etc..
- These topics were suggested but not defined as in, what would be in the mailing, how the mailing list would be compiled, who would do it, etc..

Earth Day:

Gynnie Robnett mentioned some of the other activities that were occurring before and after April 17, although many expressed interests in some of these events the only commitments that came out of this discussion was:

- Council will have a booth on the triangle on April 17 10:00 am to 5:00.
- Ralph S., Mike G., Tony Z. and Rick D. will staff the booth, (Paul A. be out of state at this time).

- Both Gynnie Robnett and Mike G. stated that they would be spitting their time between several booths and events, meaning that their involvement would be limited.
- Mike G. committed to bring the booth; some type video presentation, canoes and kayak, our banner and other Council information.
- Rick D. suggested that a working model of a watershed might be useful, Mike G. agreed and motioned to fund it starting with \$100.00, motion carried.

Rick D. suggested that bringing his “Mud Puppy” for a type of show and tell, but given the habits of a “Mud Puppy”, hiding from light may not benefit either.

Lion’s Den / Outreach Program:

Mike G. gave background on the project for Gynnie Robnett, Jered Sasen.

- Fred A. and Mike G. both agreed that the project is moving forward.
- Both agreed that the next step is to arrange a greet and meeting with the artists and the members of The Lion’s Den that may want to be involved in this project.

New Business:

- Ralph S. and Paul A. strongly suggested that the Council board members have some type of formal ID’s/Badges.
- Paul A. stated that he would go to the D.M.V. to see if they could help in this matter.
- Ralph S. is looking into having badges/patches stitched with the Council’s logo. Ralph floated the price of \$20.00 each.
- Rick D. stated his concerns with the Hosting Company that hosts the Council’s web site. That the Council’s site was down last month due to lack of communication from the hosting company to the Council.
- Mike G. conquered that the error was that of the hosting company.
- Rick D. pointed out that we don’t know if the site was down two weeks, a month or longer.
- Rick D. suggested that we provide our own hosting service and would be willing to do this for less the cost that the present hosting company is charging.
- Mike G. stated that if it would save funds then he would be interested in see some figures.
- Rick D. suggested that we formalize the relationship between “The Mass. Community Water Watch – the Springfield Technical Community College Chapter”, by providing an on going membership to the Campus organizer as a professional curtsy. This should help with continuity between the Water Watch and the Council as the personal of the Water Watch is changing from semester to semester and from year to year.
- The Campus Organizer may send a proxy in their stead, as needed. At this time the Campus Organizer is Virginia (Gynnie) Robnett. Rick D. made the motion, Ralph seconded, motion carried.
- Ralph S. stated that rent is due on the Post Office Box, \$68.00.
- Mike G. motioned to pay the rent motion carried; a check was issued for \$68.00 and given to Ralph S. for payment to the rent of the box.

- Ralph S. presented receipts for postage to send the Council's Guide Book to new members.
- Mike G. motions to reimburse Ralph S. for postage, motion carried; a check was issued for \$20.00 and given to Ralph S. for reimbursement of postage paid.
- Mike G. brought signature cards and forms from the Council's Bank to authorize Ralph S. and Rick D. to be able to issue check for the Council.
- Signature cards and forms were filled out by Ralph S. and Rick D., then given to Ralph to mail to bank.

MAIL REVIEW:

Ralph S., the Council's treasurer has been mailing the Council's mail to Rick D. (secretary), there was nothing new?

Meeting adjourned:

Mike G. motions to adjourn.

Tony Z. seconds, motion carried - 9:20 PM



Row, Row, Row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
Life is but a Dream...