

Minutes of the Blanchard River
Watershed Partnership Steering Committee

February 17, 2011

Tim Brugeman presiding, Bob Connour recording, P. Martin, S. Lehman, T. Allen, B. Antibus, and J Loehrke were present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm by Tim Brugeman

- The agenda was discussed and approved by a unanimous vote:
- There was a call to accept the minutes, T. Brugeman motioned, T. Allen seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- Treasurers report
 - D. Kozlowski was not present and P. Martin presented the report.
 - The importance of keeping detailed records of in kind donations was discussed.
 - We had a CPA do a pro-bono general review of our accounts.
 - N. Benroth was removed from our bank accounts, B. Connour was added.
 - Retired bank president J. Arnold has also agreed to look at our finances pro-bono and make sure we are doing everything properly.
 - J. Loehrke motioned to approve the treasurer's report, T. Allen seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- Committee reports
 - T. Brugeman asked what we really want from these committees and what are they doing? He stated if these committees are going to exist they need something to do.
 - Discussions were held about the need to get people involved and how to do so.
 - P. Martin stated that he, S. Lehman, and B. Antibus are meeting with some people next week who wish to get involved.
 - T. Brugeman proposed that P. Martin and a couple others get together with the committees and see what we can come up with.
 - J. Loehrke volunteered to put together and organize a river clean up in Ottawa this fall.
- Old Business
 - T. Brugeman told the group that the Strategic Plan had been edited and updated.
 - J. Loehrke moved to endorse the strategic plan, T. Allen seconded. It passed unanimously.
 - T. Brugeman told the group that the Hancock Park District gave us 2 large watershed maps, one has been placed in the city building, the other we would like to place in Ottawa.

- Coordinator comments
 - P. Martin updated to group on people he has met with and talked to.
 - P. Martin informed the group that we have applied for 2 grants and were looking at another grant. They were discussed.
 - Phil also discussed that a student from the University of Findlay and Dr. B. Henderson-Dean are working on a video presentation for us.
 - J. Loehrke moved that we have a display at the leisure living show, B. Antibus seconded, and it passed unanimously.
 - It was discussed that the president should be authorized to sign grants.
 - T. Brugeman talked about the new sustainability steering committee. He also discussed rain gardens and clear choices for clean water.

- New Business
 - Discussions were had about the calendar and when do we want to do cleanups.
 - Level 1 training for macroinvertebrates was discussed, the training will be in April and we need people that are interested.
 - There was a consensus to authorize P. Martin to pursue the training.
 - P. Martin stated that he thinks the April, May, June and July meetings need to be held in Ottawa and Bluffton.

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.