

Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed
Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2009

Meeting held at Oregon Public Library

Attendees: Caroline Werner, Scott Taylor, Lynne Diebel, Sharon Beall

Absent: James Danky

Stream Clean-up Details

Report by Lynne and Sharon

- Oregon businesses have been contacted via letter and FBCW brochure; John Lourigan received copy of letter with contact list and FBCW brochure.
- Follow-up phone calls to businesses will be made by Scott, Caroline, Lynne and Sharon to request support/sponsorship.
- Sharon reported that Boy Scout Troop 50 and ECOS have confirmed willingness to participate. Caroline has contacted Oregon Headliners 4-H group who has offered to provide bars/treats. Sharon will pursue contacts with Boy Scout Troop 168 and the local Girl Scouts who may also be participating.
- Scott will send Sharon an electronic copy of the Rock River Coalition Release Form that will be forwarded to the youth groups for parent signatures prior to the event.
- Scott and Sharon will meet at the Butter Factory Creek on Friday September 26 to trim paths to the water; other planning members are invited to participate, if available. Time will be determined by Scott and others informed via e-mail.
- Scott reviewed the list of equipment purchases for the clean-up event. Large contractor bags will be purchased. Everyone please, bring small plastic grocery bags (recycling) for use on site. Scott will shop locally after Sharon sends letter to Dorn True Value Hardware in Oregon.
- Lynne will bring a first aid kit; anyone who has cameras, please bring to document the youth community service.
- Lynne reported that 26 white tee-shirts with black lettering have been ordered; FBCW logo, Stoughton Hospital logo and First Annual Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed Clean-Up will be on the front of the shirts to be as cost effective as possible. The volunteer youth will receive the shirts; adults may purchase if shirts are available.
- Sharon forwarded electronically a report with photos sent by ECOS leader Chris Cowen to all Planning Committee members. After a brief discussion, the group decided to ask Chris if student(s) would be willing to prepare and present 5-7 minute report of group activities during the clean-up opening/welcome ceremony on 9/27/08. Sharon will contact Chris with this request.
- Meeting place for the clean-up event will be Thomson Park (South Perry Parkway and Thomson Road—south side of the Butter Factory Creek). Picnic tables will be useful for refreshments, equipment, sign-in, etc.
- James will welcome the volunteers, discuss the purpose of the event, safety issues and instructions, and introduce ECOS presenters before the clean-up begins. Release Forms will be collected and tee-shirts provided to youth during the welcome.
- Group anticipates completion before noon with closing appreciation by James.

- Caroline has prepared and submitted an article for the Oregon Observer that may be published this week. She will also contact and request the presence of WOW and Bill Livick for documentation of the event on September 27.

Invasive Species Program

Lynne discussed with the group the identification of Japanese Knotweed on the Badfish Creek during a recent canoe trip with River Alliance Protection representative Laura McFarland. Laura has agreed to provide a community education program locally during mid October to discuss this and other invasive species along Wisconsin waterways. Suzanne Wade has agreed to publicize the event in Rock River Coalition outreach materials. In addition to FBCW e-mail list, paddler groups, ECOS, DNR, etc. will be informed of the educational program. Suggested dates are October 14 or 21 from 7-9 pm. It was suggested that the location be Cooksville; James will be asked to confirm availability of the community center for those dates. If not held in Cooksville, due to size limitation, the community room at the Bank or Oregon Senior Center will be considered. Next Steps: Lynne will contact Laura to confirm the October date, inform planning group via e-mail. Anticipate coordination of the event via e-mail and calls.

New Business

1. Greg Vodak, member of Trout Unlimited who participated with his wife at the Second Annual FBCW Canoe Tour referred Lynne to conservation grants through the Besadny Grant at DNR Foundation. The web site for details about the grant opportunities is www.wisconservation.org. Lynne mentioned that if a proposal is written, the grantee requires matching funds, either cash or in-kind.
2. Caroline reported that a recent Great Lakes conference was held in Milwaukee sponsored by Native American Tribes. She expressed an interest in having Native American speakers provide historical perspective of this region with the possibility of participating in traditional customs. Lynne also suggested contact with Cal Dewitt who knows of the cultural as well as natural history of the area.
3. Caroline reported that Lorraine Hawkinson (of the Town of Dunn) shared with Caroline a series of historical news articles she'd written about the Town of Rutland in 1991. Caroline is considering inviting Lorraine to do a historical interview and her writing of it through WOW cable TV, including the Badfish Creek Native American Indian story.

Meeting minutes submitted respectively by Sharon Beall sbbeall1@yahoo.com