

**Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed**  
Plan Committee Minutes  
Thursday, January 13, 2011  
6:30-8:00pm  
Stoughton Public Library Carnegie Room

Attending: Lynne Diebel, Sharon Beall, Marsha Vomastic, Christine Felton, Ingrid West, Rae West, Caroline Werner Excused: Jim Danky

Guest speaker Chris James from Dane County Land & Water Resources (DCLWR) spoke about the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (POSP).

1. POSP updated every five years to stay eligible for the Stewardship Fund.
2. Significant to us because it opens doors for funding (naming Badfish as being in the POSP strengthens applications)
3. Facebook has a link to the DCLWR Web site with the feedback form.
4. Advisory Committee (names on the Web site) uses collected info.
5. Badfish is a Tier II stream.
6. Money for land acquisition would come from: County 25%, Sponsor 25%, Stewardship Fund 50%.
7. Chris recommends land acquisition as best preservation tool.
8. Natural Resource Area boundary would be set 300 feet from wetland or flood plain boundary.
9. What we should do: write letters to Chris by end of March saying the next POSP should include Badfish as a Natural Resource Area. This designation is necessary in order for the Dane County reaches of the stream to become a designated water trail. Also email our followers urging them to do likewise. Mention in our letters that there's no "green" in our part of the county, because that would increase our chances of getting designated. Other factors favoring designation to mention are north-to-south regional connectivity, the potential for a water trail, and the lack of county project areas in our part of county. Note: DNR requires providing hunting, fishing, trapping, cross-country skiing and hiking if they fund a land acquisition.
10. Steve Falter of Capitol Water Trails is a good resource.
11. Sharon asked about decrease in the Stewardship Fund – Chris said "more conservative decisions, but \$3-6 million per year for land acquisition."
12. Donations and conservation easements are other paths to land acquisition.
13. The Land Conservation Division handles easements and land protection. Chris could contact this department for us.
14. Check to see if we're a Dane County Friends group by contacting Rhea Stangel-Maier.

**Old Business:**

Stoughton Knotweed:

Approved draft letter to Mayor Olson about knotweed. Lynne will mail it and then contact the mayor next week about meeting. Sharon and Ingrid want to be there if possible. Lynne will email them the date and time.

Facebook & RRC Pages:

Marsha reported that the RRC page will be our base and will contain general information, and we'll keep current on Facebook. However Marsha pointed out that Facebook is limited. Rae suggested hosting our own page with our own domain name. Anyone with material to post should email it to Marsha or Lynne. Suggestion that we should use Flickr with its geolocate feature. Marsha reminded us that we need a unified, up-to-date picture to present to the public. Caroline is contacting Rutland about our page on their site. When we want to market our events, we should use both RRC and Facebook pages. Lynne will write a basic profile of the group and email it to

Marsha. Lynne will bring laptop to next meeting.

**Adopt-A-Highway:**

Christine reported that we would be expected to work 3 times a year, and everyone agreed that we should go ahead. She will handle the application.

**Big Event (Watershed Tour):**

Lynne reported that she spoke with Denise Duranczyk about involving Dane County Board members; Denise expressed strong interest and recommended sending email invitations to all board members. Ingrid handed out a list of potential Watershed Tour locations and sponsors.

**Educational Signage:**

Ingrid handed out samples of ideas for sign format – Letterman-style Top 10 lists of watershed facts, ecosystem facts, stories, river etiquette, etc.

**Cooksville Community Center program:**

Martha Degner scheduled us for Tuesday, July 19, 7-8:30 pm. They will put the event on their calendar and open the building. We'll do the rest. Lynne emailed this blurb to Martha:  
"The Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed will present a program about Badfish Creek and their group's efforts to improve the health of the creek and its watershed. Join us for a short slide show, some creek talk, and homemade refreshments. You'll also have a chance to sign up for our annual canoe outing from Cooksville to Riley Road and get involved in our various projects. 7-8:30pm Tuesday July 19, 2011 Cooksville Community Center"

**2011 Calendar:**

Decision was made to schedule Canoe Outing in August – route will be Cooksville bridge to Riley Road.

**New Business:**

**Canoecopia 2011:**

Suggestion was made to use Canoecopia (March 11-13) to hand out literature on the proposed Watershed Tour. Lynne will contact Denny Caneff at the River Alliance about us helping with their booth.

**Next meeting:**

Thursday, February 10, 2011

6-7:30pm

Stoughton Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor small conference room

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lynne Diebel