NOTES
April 11, 2007

ATTENDEES
Angie Hong, Wash. Cons. Dist.
Anne Weber, St. Paul
April Rust, Project WET
Elizabeth Storey, CAP region Watershed
Jana Larson, Hamline U. - CGEE
John Bilotta, U of MN Ext, Carver Cty.
John Shepard, CGEE - Hamline U
Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA/NPS
Nila Hines, Mn Dept. of AG.
Paula Liepold, Dakota County and Vermillion River
Peggy Knapp, CGEE – Hamline University
Ron Struss, Mn. Dept. of AG
Tracy Fredin, Hamline U. - CGEE
Trevor Russell, Friends of the Mississippi

MEETING LOCATION
MWSPs met at Capitol Region Watershed District
1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4
St. Paul MN 55108

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

Metro Media Campaign :
$28,000 donated in 2007
$21,000 carried over from 2006
$78,000 total budget

Continuing with ads during Twins games; two 15-second ads during each game about keeping grass clippings out of the street. Plus additional ads on Saturday mornings. Total cost of 38 ads during 6 weeks is $8000.

A Mailing has gone out requesting funding
to 180 MS4s;
WaterShed Partners received a pledge form asking for support for either or both the Metro Media campaign and the WaterShed Partners core activities. If your organization would like an invoice for service rather than a pledge form OR if you feel this mailing would be more effective if it were sent directly to someone else in your organization, please contact Jana Larson and we will gladly re-send it.

Budget/Operating costs:
The steering committee will be meeting on Monday April 16 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. to assess the costs of operating the WaterShed Partners, discuss ways to raise some of this money, and prioritize our activities and decide what is essential to keep going [if there is a lack of funds to support full operation of our activities]. If you would like to attend this meeting, please do; all steering committee meetings are open to all partners.

Website update
is on-going. If you see documents on the website that seem to need updating, please let us know. Especially if you have time to review our list of accomplishments and think of something that is missing, let us know by contacting Jana Larson or one of the steering committee members.

Target Environmental Fair
was a big success. Elizabeth Storey and Kathy Swenson brought a rain barrel, which attracted more than 200 people to our exhibits and to ask questions about run-off pollution. We should definitely send someone again next year!

The exhibit at the Rotunda Gallery at the Minneapolis City Hall
is up and two or three lunch-time events will happen in conjunction with the exhibit: Heart of the Beast will give a short puppet presentation, Gregg Thompson will give one [or possibly two depending on interest] rain garden workshops, and the mayor may give a talk/conversation with some folks from MNRRA and/or some other folks (this is still in preliminary planning stages.)

UPCOMING FIELD TRIP MEETINGS:

We have two field trip meetings planned. Stay tuned for more information.

STATE FAIR:

Its important that we all volunteer at Eco-Experience and the DNR exhibits at the State Fair.

UPDATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER ACTIVITIES

Children's Water Festival – registration MetroCWF.org; contact John Bilotta if you would like to receive email updates on the development of the project.

John Bilotta took a new job heading up stormwater education at the University of Minnesota. He will be in charge of metro activities and will focus on teaching local decision makers. (This leaves his position as Environmental educator open at Carver Co.)

Center for Global Environmental Education has been working on coordinating and advancing an initiative in the St. Paul school district so that every school in the district would treat storm water on site. Peggy Knapp had a meeting with the COO Hitesh Haria (not sure about spelling) and he is very interested in the idea and making it part of the St. Paul Public school sustainability initiative. It will be a service learning project at each of the schools and be used to teach science. There is interest in water projects coming from the schools; 8 out of 37 grants giving by the service learning council have involved rain water and rain garden projects. Stay tuned for updates on further developments.

Washington conservation District got an MS4 Tool Kit Grant – tool kits will be made available through the Clean Water website.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. This Friday April 13, the Blue Thumb group is meeting at 8:30 am at the CRWD.
2. Capitol Region Watershed District Open House, Wednesday April 11, 5 – 6:30 pm. Presentation by Mark Seeley at 6:30 pm: "The Effects of Climate Change on Water Resources." 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108
3. Elizabeth Storey announces the Como Lake Water Festival near Schiffman Fountain at Como Lake, Saturday June 16: 10 – 12 litter clean up, 11a – 3 pm, festival. elizabeth@capitolregionwd.org
4. Angie Hong announces that the Blue Thumb – Planting for Clean Water website: www.BlueThumb.org is being updated within the next week to include new partners. Partners are able to use the Blue Thumb logo and promotional materials and sign a partner agreement. If you are interested in becoming a memeber and having your events listed on the website, talk to Dawn Pape: dpape@ricecreek.org 763-398-3078

TODAY'S PRESENTATIONS:

PEGGY KNAPP gave a presentation about the River Educator's network: a content-heavy, relational database of resources for educators which will include images, maps, lesson plans etc easily located with a search-engine.

JOHN SHEPARD introduced a new Multi-media education tool developed by CGEE that talks about drinking water within the context of the URBAN WATER CYCLE.

NOTES

- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, May 9, 9 to 11 a.m.** at Capitol Region Watershed District, 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108. Contact any Steering Committee member with an agenda item to include. WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.
- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, April 16, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** at Hamline University, St. Paul. Steering Committee meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **E-mail Metro WaterShed Partners at watershedpartners@listproc.hamline.edu.** Senders must be subscribed to the listserv.
- **Find contacts** referred to in the text in the partner directory at **http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed.**
- PLEASE **update your listings** for Metro WaterShed Partners by emailing jlarson25@hamline.edu.

2007 STEERING COMMITTEE

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FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Jana Larson at 651-523-2812.