



METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS
MEETING MINUTES
February 11, 2009

ATTENDEES

Angie Hong, EMWREP/Washington Cons. Dist.
Angie Timmons, Hennepin County
Anne Weber, City of St. Paul
April Rust, Project WET/MN DNR
Brinkley Prescott, CGEE
Cherie Wagner, Freshwater Society
Eli Condon, MN Waters
Elizabeth Storey, CRWD
Erica Sniegowski, MWMO
Jana Larson, Hamline U. – CGEE

Janna Caywood, Citizen's League
Jen Dullum, City of Farmington
John Bilotta, MN Extension
Lark Weller, MNRRA/NPS
Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA/NPS
Paula Guetter, Minnehaha Creek Watershed Dist.
Ross Bintner, City of Prior Lake
Sandy Spieler, In the Heart of the Beast Theater
Stacey Lijewski, Hennepin County Env. Services
Teri Heyer, USDA Forest Service
Trevor Russell, FMR

MEETING LOCATION

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

MINUTES

Jen Dullum

UPDATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER ACTIVITIES

- MN Project WET has several upcoming workshops for educators listed on our events calendar at www.mndnr.gov/projectwet. One hosted by Rice Creek Watershed District coming up at the end of February.
- Understanding East African Immigrant Culture: Sustaining a Productive Workforce and Building Community Connections. Thursday, February 26, 2009. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Location: Wilder Foundation, 451 Lexington Parkway North, St. Paul, MN
Map to Wilder Center: http://www.wilder.org/fileadmin/wilder/pdf/451_Map.pdf
- Neighborhood House: Cultural Competency Series Learn about Hmong, Somali and Latino Cultures and the Refugee Experience! This March Part 1 and Part 2 workshops on Somali, Hmong, and Latino culture, as well as workshops on the experiences of refugees. All sessions at the Paul and Sheila Wellstone Center for Community Building. For more information call Tiffany at 651.789.2513 or email trprescott@neighb.org
- MWMO and the City of Minneapolis are almost finished with a 12 minute video on water for Southeast Asian Communities.
- Rice Creek WD is hosting "Love Your Lake – Shallow Lakes Workshop" Saturday, February 14th from 9:30 am to 1:00pm at Wargo Nature Center 7701 Main Street, Lino Lakes, 55038
- MN Waters is hosting a tour at the Science Museum of MN for lake and river groups. The tour will include the new "Waters" exhibit. If interested meet in the lobby of the museum February 27th at 7pm. Networking to follow at a restaurant nearby.

- The NPS is hosting an open house February 23rd from 5-9pm at the VA Hospital to showcase a recommendation for the Bureau of Mines site (including Cold Water Spring) near the MSP Airport.
- FMR has been holding legislative meetings in districts around the metro to discuss environmental issues.
- There is a Lake Pepin TMDL meeting in Farmington, February 24th at 10am.
- FMR is hosting a Rain Garden and Lawn Care workshop March 18th from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Como Senior High School.
- Community meetings are being held to determine the fate of the outdoor pool at Como Park. There is talk of turning it into a natural wetland pool.
- NEMO will be holding a number of workshops in partnership with the Science Museum of MN. They are also having workshops in Carver, Owatonna and Crystal.
- NEMO is also expanding “View from the River” to the St. Croix in June.
- If you would like to stay informed of Northland NEMO happenings send an email indicating you would like to join the NEMO E-Communicator system to Theresa Sowards at sowar006@umn.edu.
- Stormwater U (for water resource professionals) will wrap up its 6 unit series of Pond Management workshops in June. The program will start up again in the fall for cities on the west side of the metro. There will also be a Rain Garden Symposium in the future for those folks doing rain garden education.

WATERSHED EXHIBITS COMMITTEE

The Exhibits Committee met in January and discussed branding for a mutually reinforcing identity. Several firms were contacted and that process is on-going. New ideas for the State Fair were also discussed. Ideas include; a raffle, pinball machine, photo booth, video booth, and replacing the “Streets to Streams” pollution board. The next exhibits meeting is scheduled for March 11 at 11:30am (following WSP meeting) at CRWD. Other interested partners are welcome to attend.

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

Metro Media Campaign

The 2008 Draft Report is complete. We raised \$61, 000 and will have an \$11,500 carryover. Already in 2009 we have raised \$20,300. A work plan for 2009 will be completed in March for review.

Pages of the MS4 Toolkit are being uploaded onto hidden pages on the cleanwatermn.org website. High Monkey will be involved with merging the Toolkit onto the website. Pages are also being “Minnesota-ized”.

CITIZENS LEAGUE: Study Committee on Minnesota Water Policy Management

Janna Caywood from the Citizens League shared with the group information about the organization and current efforts of their Water Policy Study Committee to review Minnesota management of non-point pollution in Surface waters. She asked for our input. Members of the Steering Committee will meet with her. Please see attached sheets for more information.

PRESENTATION: “Using Arts to Inspire Water Stewardship”

Sandy Spieler, Artistic Director, In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater

Sandy Spieler is an artist and activist. She has focused on water for many years, most recently leading audiences into discovery of water quantity, quality and ownership issues through the investigation of their own drinking water. Sandy showed colorful examples of their work including wonderful graphical depictions of watersheds with people as part of them. Heart of the Beast Theater recently celebrated a “re-opening” of their formerly out-of-order drinking fountain. Sandy impressed us with her passion and the work of their theater to educate and inspire people! Please see attachment for more information and upcoming performances.

UPCOMING 2009 MEETING PRESENTERS

March 11: Denise Leezer from MPCA will present on TMDLs.

April 8: Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour

NOTES:

Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, March 11, 9-11am at Capitol Region WaterShed District. Denise Leezer from MPCA will present in Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). If you have an agenda item you would like covered at a meeting, contact any Steering Committee member. WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.

Next Steering Committee meeting: Friday, March 13, 9-11a.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://www.hamline.edu/education/cgee_site/WaterShedPartners/Partners/directory.html

2009 STEERING COMMITTEE

Angie Hong
ahong@mnwcd.org

Jen Dullum 651-463-1605
jdullum@ci.farmington.mn.us

Anne Weber 651-266-6245
anne.weber@ci.stpaul.mn.us,

Lyndon Torstenson 651-290-3030 x232
Lyndon_torstenson@nps.gov

Denise Leezer, MN Pollution Control Agency
denise.leezer@state.mn.us

Trevor Russell 651-222-2193 x18
trussell@fmr.org

Elizabeth Storey 651-644-8888
elizabeth@capitolregionwd.org

Tracy Fredin 651-523-3105
tfredin@gw.hamline.edu