



METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS
MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2009

ATTENDEES

Angie Hong, Washington Cons. Dist.
April Rust, Project Wet
Becky Rice, Metro Blooms
Brain Goodspeed, MNRRA
Cherie Wagner, Freshwater Society
Denise Leezer, MPCA
Erica Sniegowski, MWMO
Jana Larson, Hamline U. – CGEE
Janna Caywood, Citizen’s League

Jen Dullum, City of Farmington
Lane Christianson, City of Minneapolis
Lark Weller, MNRRA
Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA/NPS
Madeline Banschbach, Carver County Water
Management
Paula Guetter, Minnehaha Creek Watershed Dist.
Randy Thoreson, MNRRA
Stacey Lijewski, Hennepin County Environmental
Services
Teri Heyer, USDA Forest Service
Tracy Fredin, Hamline University

MEETING LOCATION

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

MINUTES

Elizabeth Storey

UPDATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER ACTIVITIES

Environmental Protection Agency is holding a nonpoint source pollution prevention education and outreach conference in Portland, OR on May 11-14, 2009.

Paula gave an update of Minnehaha Creek Watershed District's activities.

The National Park Service and partners will run “Journey to the Falls” riverboat field trips in Minneapolis for 4th-6th graders in the spring. Registrations are currently open and scholarships are available. FFI: Brian Goodspeed at 651-290-3030, x297; www.nps.gov/miss/forteachers/

Como Woodland is a small acreage of Como Park whose advisory committee includes Teri Heyer. The CWAC has completed a management plan for the area and is currently fundraising for the creation of an Outdoor Classroom and invasive species management activities.

WSP STAFF SUPPORT CHANGES

Lyndon Torstenson reported that the WaterShed Partners is financially challenged due to the ending of McKnight funding support recently. To cover the loss of Jana Larson's time to administrate the

activities of the WSP, several changes are being implemented. Steering Committee members will take turns taking minutes. Lyndon also asked that volunteers sign up for taking a turn to bring snacks to the WSP meeting. Check in and out of the WSP exhibits is also suspended until money is raised to pay for administrative help. Alternatively, a partner is needed with storage space and the ability to check the exhibits in and out. Jana mentioned that the non-running van that currently holds the WSP exhibit pieces could feasibly be towed to a new site and serve as a storage unit.

Hamline University will make a volunteer contribution to the WaterShed Partners by continuing to process contributions and administrate the WSP listserv.

WATERSHED EXHIBITS COMMITTEE

The Exhibits Committee met on 12/18 and discussed the centrality of the State Fair exhibitry to WSP, and some new exhibit possibilities including a pinball machine tooled to educate the public on watershed topics. The committee also discussed the need to unify the appearance of its media pieces, and brand its message for greater recognition and effectiveness. The February exhibits meeting is scheduled for February 17, 1:00-2:00 at CGEE on the Hamline University campus, St. Paul. Other interested partners are welcome to attend.

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

Metro Media Campaign

The next media campaign work group meeting will be held at CRWD at 11am on Wednesday, February 11th, immediately following the WSP meeting. A MMC annual report is forthcoming.

Budget and Fundraising Update

We are putting forth multiple efforts to obtain funding for the group:

- 319 Grant Application submitted to EPA to partially fund the WaterShed Partners and the Media Campaign from June 2009 – June 2011 was denied.
- End of the year funding appeal for Metro Watershed Partners and the Metro Media Campaign has gone out.

PRESENTATION: “2008 Legislative Review and 2009 Agenda”

Molly Schultz, Public Policy Director and lobbyist from Minnesota Environmental Partnership (a coalition of 80 Minnesota environmental groups) presented on water and environment issues at the Legislature. She reviewed 2008 legislative outcomes, and highlighted 2009 priorities – including clean cars, sensible communities, and safe mines. She described and discussed the roll of the Clean Water Council in making funding recommendations regarding the Legacy Amendment.

UPCOMING 2009 MEETING PRESENTERS

February 11: Sandy Spieler from Heart of the Beast Theater presenting on using the arts to inspire water stewardship

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

NOTES:

Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, February 11, 9-11am at Capitol Region WaterShed District. Sandy Spieler from In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater will present on their water protection and conservation education efforts. 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: Tuesday, January 27, 2-4 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://www.hamline.edu/education/cgee_site/WaterShedPartners/Partners/directory.html

2009 STEERING COMMITTEE

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