



Black River Advisory Committee

LoCo 'Yaks | Facilitating Organization

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(440) 249-0590

BRAC QUARTERLY MEETING | Tuesday, July 11th, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

Location: Eaton Township Town Hall 12043 Avon Beldon Road, Grafton

MINUTES

- ❖ Call to Order / Welcome & Introductions – Don Romancak. 1:00PM
 - In attendance: Patti Donnellan, LS&WCD; Lynne Parsh, LS&WCD; Kristen Risch, Coldwater Consulting; Kate Golden, City of Lorain; Hannah Boesinger, OLEC; Steve Holland, ODNR; Lynn Garrity, OLEC; Lyn Ickes, LCCD; Scott Pozna, LCPH; John Sabo, Retired; Duane Cribley, LCPH; Don Romancak, LCCD; Jack Caruso, Coldwater Consulting; Chip Wendt, Coldwater Consulting; Stephanie Koscho, facilitator, and Carla Rosenfeld, US EPA (new Michael) is on the phone.
- ❖ Event Wrap-up – Margaret Peak and LoCoBROH.com – Six years and Lyn is glad to be this close to being complete. Soon, all County GLRI projects will be clickable.
- ❖ Fiscal Report
 - Will be ready at the September meeting. Everything is moving along smoothly other than I haven't sent in a Pay request in several months. There is a little bit of money still available for a site tour. Let's take Lorain High School's Lake Erie Ecology & BIO 165 classes. Kate would like to take as many buses as possible so we don't have to limit the number of students from the classes.
- ❖ Old Business
 - Advertising
 - Radio package – Lou Brasse will coordinate with Don & Lyn.
 - MJ & Chronicle ads – need simple ad as base design.
 - LorainCounty.com – see what Ed comes up with.
 - Facebook – small amount of funding pushing the QR code.
- ❖ New Business
 - Facilitator Transition Overview – Stephanie has passed on all the passwords and access information for website accounts. Patti is considering moving the website to a different hosting platform for ease of editing. (LoCo 'Yaks did the same when they began facilitating.)
- ❖ Black River Watershed Project Updates
 - County (Don) – app is done and we are marketing it.
 - City (Kate)
 - The final AOC project of cap & cover for remainder of steel mill is waiting for an amendment from feds. Construction should be complete by year's end.

- There are 5 “City” QR posts: Martin’s Run; Parker Marine; Heron Rookery (via kayak only); screening building across the street from City Hall; and at Black River Landing.
 - Discussion continued about possible additional locations and adding a map of all QR posts. And more pictures and video needs to be added to all the pages. Lyn will begin creating a walking tour video.
- ❖ Ohio AOC Program Updates & Announcements (Hannah)
 - MBI is in the field this week doing their first round of biological fish and benthos sampling. They are planning to be back out in August or September for their second round. Expecting that data back in the spring of 2024. At that point, we’ll have a better idea of what those BUIs are telling us and how to proceed with those removals. (*Degradation of Fish Populations and Degradation of Benthos*)
 - BUI 4
 - Removal report is going out for a 3-week public comment period this week, possibly even today.
 - Letter of Support is requested of the BRAC, however, there is not a quorum present.
- ❖ Federal AOC Program Updates & Announcements
 - Task Force Lead – Carla Rosenfeld: new for the Black River. GLAOC Conference in September. Rec Site additional funding.
- ❖ Announcements | Other Business
 - Lynn Garrity – AOC Conference September 12-14. Will confirm poster session options. Travel scholarships available.
 - Ohio AOC Conference will be sometime in November. Environmental Justice will be a federal topic moving forward.
 - Don asked about having a Summit again next year. Kristen said, “wait until Rec Site is done”. Kate said maybe wait to see how the Sunset Pier Park moves along. Don said it could be about “transitioning”. Discussion continued around coordinating with another downtown event instead of trying to get our own crowd.
- ❖ Adjournment – no quorum to vote. Meeting ending at 2:04PM