



BLACK RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FACILITATING ORGANIZATION:

LoCo 'YAKS

138 ALABAMA AVENUE

(MAILING ADDRESS: 331 MISSOURI AVE.)

LORAIN, OH 44052

(419) 239-3779

BLACK RIVER AREA OF CONCERN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

12:00 PM

Transportation Center @ Black River Landing

421 Black River Lane

Lorain, OH 44052

Minutes

Attendance: *denotes Voting Member at start of this meeting

Marijoy Halitzka* (& Kate)	Private Citizen Member
Kate Golden*	City of Lorain
Chip Wendt	Coldwater Consulting
Kristen Risch	Coldwater Consulting
Amanda Hall	Lorain County
Derek Feuerstein*	City of Lorain
Bryan Goldthorp*	Lorain County Metro Parks
Stephanie Lesco	Lorain County General Health District
Ted Conlin	Ohio EPA
Rick Wilson	Ohio EPA
Matt Nahorn*	Private Citizen Member – Beaver Creek Watershed Group
Russ Gibson	Ohio EPA
Don Romancak*	Lorain County
Duane Cribley	Lorain County General Health District
Jill Lis*	Lorain County General Health District
Kristen Isom	US EPA / GLNPO
John Sabo	Lorain County General Health District
Christin Brandon	LCCDD
Max Schaefer*	Ohio Environmental Council
Kate Pilacky	Western Reserve Land Conservancy
Rick Payerchin	Morning Journal
Eddie Herdendorf	Sheffield Village



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Ricki Herdendorf	EcoSphere
Jennifer Wasilk*	Private Citizen Member
Lindsey	Ohio Environmental Council
Steve Holland	ODNR – Office of Coastal Management
David Emerman	Ohio EPA
Julie Mackey	Private Citizen Member
Lyn Ickes	Lorain County / BRCCC
Alexis	Chronicle Telegram
Pam Davis	NOACA
Tom Brown	Lorain Port Authority
Stephane Moore Koscho	LoCo 'Yaks
Robb Koscho	LoCo 'Yaks

- ❖ Welcome (Don) 12:06pm
- ❖ Approval of Meeting Minutes 4/3/17 (Don) Motion to accept minutes with edits, by Bryan Goldthorpe; second by Derek Feuerstein. *UPDATE: Edits have been recorded.*
- ❖ Fiscal Report (Stephane)
 - \$14,416.36 remains
 - Current grant extension – Extension request to include storm drain stenciling, more MDPEPs, public river tours via boat & kayak, informational AOC/ Black River brochures; extension will take us through March, next cycle begins April 1. *UPDATE: Aug. 14 we received notification the the extension was approved.*
 - Mini grant – Dominion & Western Reserve Land Conservancy - \$1500 for marketing and promotions of MDPEPs, restoration work, etc. Will include additional brochure printings, TV &/or radio advertising, 360 degree camera to showcase river projects on social media & our website. Application due end of July. Applying as LoCo 'Yaks, not BRAC. *UPDATE: Sept. 18 we received notice of approval.*
- ❖ Lower Black River Restoration Grant Project Updates
 - Kate Golden – SEEP system – Very close to completion. There were some access issues for acid chamber installation. The remote location caused a delivery problem, changes made to allow accessibility. Aug 1 start date as designed. New acid line installation to be complete prior to winter.
 - Kate Golden – Wall project: bulkhead @ LSYC is failing, needs piling replacement. This area has lowest fish counts in the river. New sheet piling to encourage fish habitat. The design is



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about 30% complete. The Army Corps paperwork has been submitted. Bidding will take place in August with construction November – May.

- Kate Golden - Groundwater assessment on 300 acres behind mills – completed some sampling - & sediment work. Will be complete toward end of year – GLNPO allocated (15.095m) (get from Kate)
- Lyn Ickes – Invasives report:
 - Willow Creek – We are down to the “punch list”.
 - Eaton Twp Park – Gorgeous – another year for full growth.
 - Margaret Peak – Phrag. is in bloom, so it’s time to spray. Cattail is in remediation. Live staking is good – the wet year has help growth.
 - Phases 2 & 3 waiting for phrag. to bloom. We have 80 acres between 2 invasives. Poison hemlock sucks.
 - Crew completed awareness training.
- Kate Golden – Lakeview Beach – Last fall City of Lorain, LCMP, LCGHD discussed the beach closure issue. Many have addressed the bacterial issues because it is ranked among worst, but the cause of the issues has yet to be identified. GLNPO wants to fund \$300,000 to study water in/ around/ under beach. They will look at water samples, as well as a circulation model of the beach & breakwalls. Requesting approval/ support from AOC after commitment has been made due to short time frame. Motion to approve by Max; second by Tom Brown. All in favor. Motion passes.
- Don Romancak – Willow Creek– Three projects originally totaling \$600,000. Concepts were great to do some big improvements for Willow Creek watershed – very similar to Fortune Ditch. Now there is discussion of raising the bed at Fortune Ditch to allow better flow, therefore completion within budget & plan cannot be promised. Although, we may be able to complete without raising ditch, so now we have to remove “*via raising stream grade*” based on site conditions & funding availability on Management Action List. Revise & resend to Kristen Isom ASAP. Motion to approve by Kate; second by Derek. All in favor. Motion passes.
- Don Romancak – Would like BRAC’s full support of Application for Fortune Ditch at Margaret Peak – 1.5 acres planting. Motion to approve by Kate; second by Derek. All in favor. Motion passes.

❖ Kayak-A-Thon review

- Kristen Risch – 60 participants/ 20+ volunteers. Float took longer than normal because of one group who took it very “casual”. Will do it again next year with International Festival again on the last Sat. in June.

❖ New Chair & Vice Chair -



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- Nominations –
 - Derek nominates Matt Nahorn as Vice – Mr. Nahorn declines due to other obligations
 - Christen B nominates Don Romancak to remain as Chair – Derek 2nds motion
 - Kate nominates Tom Brown as vice chair – Derek 2nds motion
- Discussion – Tom needed a little convincing, but was just worried about time constraints with his new position at the Port Authority.
- Vote – All in favor. Motion carries.
- ❖ Old Business
 - Black River Clean-Up results:
 - This year's totals were great even with the windy weather.
 - 320 volunteers.
 - 14.39 tons including 254 tires & 1,300+ lbs. scrap metal.
- ❖ New Business
 - Lorain County Lakefront Connectivity Plan -- NOACA trail to go through AOC. Public stakeholder meeting was held last week. Avon Lake to Lorain – bicycling, walking, public transit, economic development of waterfront, balance of transportation & economical development. Region & lake matter to BRAC. Healthy environment & clean water are essential.
 - OSU Extention – Julie Mackey – wants to be new voting member. Will vote as citizen for now, possibly move as Gov't member later. Motion to approve by Max; second by Derek. All in favor. Motion passes.
- ❖ Announcements
 - Congratulations Kate & Bryan Golden!!
 - Steve Holland – proposals for next round of grants \$10,000-200,000.
 - Russ Gibson - 2019 is coming quickly when the BRAC should be finishing up the Management Actions List. We should start thinking about after delisting: Presuming that 319 funding moves forward, consider developing watershed implementation strategies.
 - 9 element plan to continue after AOC money has dried up.
 - BRAC is not to restore the AOC, but to make it non-toxic. There will still be plenty of work after AOC money is gone. It's not too early to start plans for future.
- ❖ Motion to adjourn by Bryan Goldthorp; second by Derek. All in favor. Motion passes.