



VAN BUREN COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

JOE PARMAN, Drain Commissioner

JEFF ARNDT, SESC and Drain Maintenance Supervisor

GEORGIA MASSURA, Deputy Drain Commissioner

July 9, 2008

Black River and Paw Paw River Transition Sustainability Team

Bangor City Hall 7:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Call to order: 7:04 p.m.

Motions (informal):

Sam Ewbank motioned that Joe Parman be secretary for the meeting, all in favor.

Al Baerren moved that he would come up with mission statement ideas involving both watersheds, all in favor.

Sam Ewbank moved that Amy Lockhart and Matt Meersman report on 501-3C establishment for next meeting, all in favor.

General consensus to stay at Bangor Town Hall for future meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. – Next meeting dates: August 13th and September 10th.

Pete Ter Louw motioned that he would do a press release for the Sustainability Team, all in favor

Sam Ewbank motioned that the name of group remain as “Transition Team” until a new one is established, all in favor.

Sam Ewbank moved to adjourn – 8:36 p.m., all in favor.

Submitted,

Joe Parman

Attachement: Discussion



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Transition Team Meeting

General Discussion:

Matt Meersman reviewed pre-meeting topics: Education and outreach were priorities, community leaders and getting the message out were important priorities, and one group with a professional partner being the preferred outlook.

Erin Fuller reviewed tally vote questions and break-out groups—reference hand out

Matt Meersman: Focus on topics/issues that will benefit both watersheds.

Dave Foerster and Frank, Paw Paw Lake discussed the phosphorus ban in relation to both watersheds.

- a. zero phosphorus and slow release nitrogen
- b. guidelines: guards on fertilizer spreaders
- c. Educational ordinance
- d. Erin Fuller-have people from transition team attend local meetings and identify themselves as a group that supports ban.
- e. phosphorus ban is for residential not agriculture. Ag is regulated by MDA
- f. Paw Paw Lake Foundation backed a township resolution and coupons in stores for phosphorus free fertilizers.
- g. recommended that group attend county and local meetings

Topic #3: On going projects and accomplishments

Marcy Cloclough discussed Paw Paw Plan update: 98% done and submitted final to CMI, MDEQ for approval for grants/implementation. Educational plans for implementation could incorporate Black and Paw Paw Rivers.

Erin Fuller on Black River update: The Black River Plan is already in implementation stage and have done education and outreach projects. Finished one project in City of Bangor, bio-swales filtering stormwater, bank revetments, etc... Currently working on project in Village of Bloomingdale installing rain garden and doing river restoration project.

There was discussion from Kalamazoo County Conservation district concerning septic inspections at point of sale as a good option to work toward. You can get a property assessment for your septic: example, Lake Assist and it is confidential. Point of sale septic inspections Affects both watersheds. Deb, Great Bear Lake Association has a voluntary inspection program with dye testing,

Topic #4: Mission Statement

Dave Foerster recommended that the mission statement focus on preservation and/or restoration in both watersheds

Topic #5: Planning Stage-Framework for success

It was recommended that we create a directory of groups and associations in both watersheds. Matt recommended establishing by-laws, membership, future meetings and dates. Then set tasks or goals that the group can accomplish, give direction.



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Group would like more information on establishing and maintenance of 510-3c status. Dave Foerster, Matt Meersman, and Amy Lockhart have experience with status. Conservation District has an accountant that may be able to assist.

Round Table discussion:

Establish a name for the watershed group.

Possible website for group (attached to Conservations site?)

Erin Fuller has a list of the Team and will hand out at next meeting.

Do we need a facilitator for use in the future?

Adjourn