

## RRWC meeting Summary (July 26, 2007)

**Board Roll Call:** Mike Durkalec, Donna Childs, Jim Kamps, David Cass, Elva Edger, Ivan Hack, Lane Kessler, Mike McNutt, John Miller, Dan Miltner, Tom Romito, Lisa Vavro, and Marianne Zimmerman were present. Mike Durkalec presided over the meeting in George Remias' absence.

**New Board Member:**

The Board voted to appoint Marianne Zimmerman as new Board member to fill the vacancy left by Miles Reed's resignation.

**Treasurer's Update (Jim Kamps):**

**\$4,095.24** currently held by the Medina County SWCD for the RRWC. This money will be transferred to the RRWC's own bank account at First Merit Bank after the September 29<sup>th</sup> Watershed Festival. Medina SWCD will need a letter from the RRWC specifying the total sum of funds, and requesting fund transfer prior to opening the account.

**Watershed Festival Update (Donna Childs):**

Festival budget currently includes **\$3,192.50** of planned expenditures. Festival Budget and Press Release are attached. The Board voted to make all RRWC funds available for festival expenses, except for a \$500 reserve. **PLEASE SEE ATTACHED VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET!**

**RRWC protocol for endorsement requests (Jared Bartley):**

Attached revision of the Issue/Letter Endorsement Policy will be voted upon at the next Board meeting.

**501c3 Update (Mike McNutt):**

The Ohio Secretary of State approved the incorporation of the Rocky River Watershed Council on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The next step of the 501c3 process is obtaining IRS recognition as a tax free entity. The possible need for Board insurance was also brought up by Dan Miltner.

**Stream Monitoring/Assessment Presentation (Jared Bartley, Garry Zimmerman):** Garry and his wife, new Board member Marianne, monitor macroinvertebrates at Morley Ford (near the mouth of the Rocky River) for Cleveland Metroparks' naturalist Gretchen Motts. This is one of several sites monitored by volunteers along the Rocky River for Cleveland Metroparks. Jared is soliciting RRWC volunteers to expand this program. He is also attempting to set up a Credible Data Collector training session locally (OEPA program) and is organizing a stream walk assessment along Baldwin Creek to locate possible opportunities for stream restoration.

**RRWC/IBA Partnership (Tom Romito):** Although RRWC did not receive a grant from Great Lakes Habitat Network for this year's watershed festival, Tom received valuable feedback suggesting we need to advocate more strongly for clean water. Tom introduced Diane Sigler, coordinator of the Rocky River IBA (Important Bird Area), who will work with the RRWC to further the goals of both parties. Last May, the Rocky River IBA conducted a 31 mile pledge walk going from the Buzzards' Roost in Hinckley Reservation all the way to mouth of the Rocky River. RRWC and IBA plan to collaborate on a similar fundraising walk next year.

**Backyard Buffer Program Grant (Jared Bartley):**

Cuyahoga SWCD received a Lake Erie Protection Fund grant for \$10,000 to fund materials for 200 streamside residents to plant riparian buffer vegetation.

**Next Meeting:** Tentatively scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Details to be announced.