



Association Meeting Summary for August 16, 2011

Next Meeting: September 20, 2011- 7:30 to 9:30 am-

Attendees: Paul Bartley, Bob Donaldson, Ann Donovan, Bob Eberhart, Jim Gazza, Todd Giddings, Kristen Saacke Blunk, Nick Schipanski, and Jennifer Shuey

Kristen Saacke Blunk called the meeting to order at 7:35 am.

- 1) **Review of Agenda and Meeting Summary.** No changes to agenda or comments on July meeting notes.
- 2) **Marcellus Forum Steering Committee report**
 - a) Bob Donaldson reported on first meeting of the Transition Towns' Marcellus Forum steering committee. His opinion from the meeting was that the forum organizers would not invite industry perspective until too late in the planning process to foster balance. Also, the forum would not focus on water but on energy use issues beyond the scope of the Associations mission. Bob recommended that:
 - i) The Association not formally sponsor the Forums at this time
 - ii) The Association be kept informed on the planning process in order to make decisions about potential future sponsorship
 - iii) Association members wanting to participate in the steering committee planning process may do so. Bob will not be attending future steering committee meetings.
 - b) Association members present agreed by consensus with Bob's recommendations. Association members wanting to participate in the steering committee, please contact Nick Schipanski for details.
- 3) **Protect Your Groundwater Day, September 13, 2011**
 - a) Todd Giddings informed the group of "Protect Your Groundwater Day", a new event this year by the National Groundwater Association to promote public education and action for groundwater protection. <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/groundwater-day/Pages/default.aspx>
 - b) List of actions: municipal proclamation, letter to the editor, CDT article, CNET
 - c) Todd presented a template for a Groundwater Day proclamation for adoption by municipalities: Nick S. agreed to distribute the template to the Commission for consideration by their respective municipalities and Ann D. agreed to contact Jon Eich. Kristen will contact CDT about potential for Op-Ed piece by Todd. Nick will have the event noted in Clearwater's eNewsletter.
- 4) **Changes in Association meeting venue and format**
 - a) Kristen proposed exploring change in venue for September meeting to the new Spring Creek Education Building at Millbrook Marsh as way to visible connect Associations' meetings with

Spring Creek and to appeal to new members or members who no longer attend meetings. Change would be tried out in September and made permanent depending on member approval and cost considerations. Kristen asked for approval to solicit funds to cover any rental costs. Consensus of members present was supportive of exploring venue change and agreed to allow Kristin to solicit funding.

- b) Kristen proposed formation of steering committee to handle details of business issues before the Association to free up the monthly meeting of the full Association for speakers and broader mission of the organization. Steering committee would be composed of current and past Chairs, Clearwater's Water Resource Coordinator, and would be open to interested members. The consensus of members present was to support the idea.

5) Committee Reports

- a) Water Resources Monitoring. The 2010 Annual Report will be distributed no later than the end of August.

6) Agency / Committee / Organization Updates.

- a) Spring Creek Watershed Commission
 - i) There will be no August meeting.
 - ii) Nick S reported that the Oct 19th meeting of the Commission will be devoted to a Source Water Protection workshop for small water suppliers.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 am.

Minutes prepared by N. Schipanski