

**Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership, Inc.
Lutheran Home at Toledo
131 N. Wheeling St., Toledo, 43605
Community Room
July 16, 2009
2:00 p.m.**

Attendees: Landon Eenigenburg, ARCADIS (representing CSX); Neal Thurber, BP Husky; Gerry Klug, Citizen; Paul Fletcher, Jones & Henry Engineers; Dave Barna, USEPA; Regina Collins, City of Toledo; Sandy Bihn, WLEWA; Sue Horvath, Citizen
Staff: Becky Simpson, Executive Director.

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the May 21st minutes was made by Neal Thurber, with support by Paul Fletcher. No changes were made to the minutes. All were in favor.

2. Industry Workgroup Update

Neal Thurber gave an update on the industry workgroup. Four companies, Pilkington, Sunoco, Chevron, and BP have finalized a legal agreement, allowing them to work together and apply for a funding application from GLNPO. A project manager, Mark Traverse, with Environ, has also been hired. He has previous experience with the GLNPO office. A contract between the industry group and Environ is being worked on currently, and once complete Mark will put together a scope of work and submit this along with an application to GLNPO. GLNPO will then need to approve the application before work begins. The Industries are hopeful that work can begin this summer/fall for the first phase of the project, collecting data for the data gap analysis. An attorney has also been hired. The attorney has worked with GLLA projects in the past and will represent the industry group as needed.

3. Update on WMP Revisions

Paul Fletcher gave an update on the WMP. The original Maumee RAP Watershed Action Plan was completed in 2005. To receive EPA approval, the WMP will need to be updated and a coastal management section will need to be added. Paul is in the process of updating our Duck and Otter creeks watershed project tables. He is encouraging our members to let him know any possible future projects, such as the data gap analysis, so these can be added to the plan, and to update him on the progress of any existing or proposed projects in the Watershed Project Tables in the Report. Sandy commented that the lake seems to be greener than ever and she would like to see nutrient management and phosphorous reduction projects in the updated plan.

4. Project Priority discussion

Becky Simpson gave an update on the Project Priority survey. Last month a survey was e-mailed to all the Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership members. This survey gave a list of projects that were either highlighted in the Maumee AOC state 2 WRP or have been discussed at previous meetings. The members were asked to give each project a priority score of 1 to 5 with 1 being low priority and 5 being high priority. Eight surveys were returned before the meeting. There were three projects that received the highest score. They were: 1. Create educational brochures for Best Management Practices for new development in the creeks. 2. Landowner workshop on proper fertilizer/pesticide use. 3. Wetland restoration at 280 between Starr and Navarre. Other projects that received high scores were educate landowners on household hazardous waste options and phosphorous monitoring

at Collins golf course. In Andrea Beard's survey, she mentioned that much of the watershed has already been developed. The group discussed this and thought it might be better to use our time in educating landowners on residential best management practices, instead of creating a brochure for new development. Other possible workshops that were discussed were: buffer strips, household hazardous wastes, proper fertilizer and pesticide use. There might be a possibility to partner with the solid waste district or the soil and water offices for some of these workshops. Other projects that were highlighted as being a high priority will hopefully be achieved when grant money becomes available.

5. Director's Report

Newsletter – Becky is currently working on the August newsletter. Topics will cover the Lutheran Homes update as well as the date for the “Grand Opening”, Clean Your Stream event taking place on September 12th, Rain barrel workshop, and possible new office address. This will be the last mailing of the quarterly newsletter. All future newsletters will be e-mailed to all participants.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative – This proposed plan contains a \$475 million initiative for programs and projects strategically chosen to target the most significant environmental problems in the Great Lakes ecosystem. Funding will be available in two ways; through competitive grants or existing agencies. If this proposal is approved, grants could be available as early as December of this year. Becky has been meeting with TMACOG, OH EPA and Partner for Clean Streams to create a table of potential projects for GLRI funding in the Maumee AOC. This list was distributed. The U.S. EPA is holding 5 public meetings to provide information on, and receive input on, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The meeting being held in Ohio will be on July 27th from 6-8p.m. in Cuyahoga Heights. There will be a meeting on July 22nd from 6-8p.m. that will be webcast. Please contact Becky if you would like more information.

St. Charles Hospital – Last month Sue and Becky toured through a potential office at St. Charles hospital. This office is larger than the office now at Lake Erie Center and they would provide storage space as well. The rent for the office is \$241/month as well as \$25/month per phone line. The rent we are paying now at the Lake Erie Center is \$600/month, which includes everything. Sandy thought that we should approach the Lake Erie Center first to see if they could reduce their rent before we voted on moving the office. Sue Horvath made a motion to contract with St. Charles hospital for office space, if the Lake Erie Center does not propose to reduce their rent amount to a similar level. Sandy Bihn seconded the motion and all were in favor.

2nd membership notice – Becky sent out reminder notices to all the members that have not renewed their membership for 2009. If you are unsure if your membership was received, please contact Becky.

6. Financial Report

The accountant that has been with Duck and Otter Creeks is no longer with the company. Becky will be meeting with the new accountant next week to discuss what services they will provide us in the future. Becky passed around a spreadsheet showing our approved 2009 budget as well as our expenses and revenue up to July 13th. It was asked that Becky add the 2008 revenue and expenses to the spreadsheet. This will be done and attached to the minutes.

7. Open Announcements

Neal Thurber had 3 announcements.

1. The refinery has a water permit pending, and will hopefully be finalized soon. There will be 3 study areas that will require actions. They are: 1. Reducing mercury. 2. Characterizing thermal effects of discharge. 3. Fish impingement study.

2. Pipeline will be doing work – replacing sections.
3. July 23rd there will be a public hearing on a new processing unit. This unit will reduce their emissions and eliminate wastewater source. The meeting will be at 6:30 at the Lake Erie Center.

8. Wetland Project Update

Becky Simpson gave an update on the Wetland Project located at Lutheran Homes. The pervious pathway was poured during the week of May 4th. The benches and the signs were installed in June. There have been two maintenance days so far and more will be scheduled during the summer. We are now planning a “Grand Opening” event at the site, where contributors and members of the Partnership will be invited to walk around and learn about everything that had been done as part of the project. The date and time for this event have yet to be determined. Since the majority of this grant is now complete, we will soon finish all the paperwork for this grant, which will then allow us to receive the \$6,500 for administration costs for this project.

9. Tour around the Lutheran Homes project

10. Next meetings

- Full Board: September 17, 2009 – 2:00 pm location to be determined
- Steering Committee: time and location to be determined

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Simpson