

**Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership, Inc.  
Toledo-Lucas County Public Library  
3340 Dustin Road, Oregon, OH 43616  
March 19, 2009  
2:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Landon Eenigenburg, ARCADIS (representing CSX); Sue Horvath, Citizen; Susan Richards, Envirosafe Services; Neal Thurber, BP Husky; Cliff Fleener, Pilkinton; Sandy Bihn, WLEA; Frank Reynolds, OFPA; Chris Englert, Malcolm Pirnie; Gerry Klug, Citizen; Andrea Beard, City of Oregon; Stace Bieber, GEC, Inc.

**Staff:** Becky Simpson, Executive Director.

**Agenda Items:**

**1. Approval of minutes**

A motion to approve the January 15 minutes was made by Susan Richards, with support by Stace Bieber. No changes were made to the minutes. All were in favor.

**2. Risk Assessment Update**

Becky Simpson gave an update on the Risk Assessments. Tetra Tech has completed the Ecological and Human Health Risk Assessment reports and the Joyce Foundation as well as the board from Partners for Clean Streams have approved them. These reports can be viewed at: <https://partners.ttemi.com/sites/duckandottercreeks> as well as on the DOCP website. Becky distributed disks that contained both RA's as well as all the comments that were sent in, to all the members. If you were not at the meeting and would like a copy, please contact Becky.

**3. Wetland Project Update**

Everything is moving forward at a fast pace with the wetland project. Last week Becky ordered two recycled plastic benches that will be installed with the pervious pavement pathway. The pathway, depending on weather, should be installed during the last week of April. A rough draft of the 5 signs has been complete and was passed around during the meeting. Becky will order the signs next week, once she receives all the comments from the board. Next week, Becky and Sue will meet with Naturally Native Nursery to discuss a maintenance plan for this year. It was discussed to have one of our board meetings this summer at the site so everyone could get a chance to walk around and see the completed project.

**4. Industry Workgroup Update**

Neal Thurber gave an update on the industry workgroup. Five companies have signed a letter of interest which was sent to the USEPA GLNPO office. Interviews for project manager have taken place. At this time, there are two people in consideration and they hope to make a decision soon. Their next step is to have the 5 companies work out a legal agreement. The reason for the legal agreement is that GLNPO wants to work with one person in the group (not 5 companies) and each of the five companies are taking a legal obligation to pay for the 35% of the total cost. The legal agreement is almost complete and hope to have everyone sign off on it within the next month. Once this is complete, they can move forward and apply for GLLA funding. Their hope is to start work on the creeks this summer, collecting data such as the extent of contamination, characterizing sediments, analyzing fish tissue, and comparing chemical constituents verses sediment toxicity, all in the goal to fill information gaps.

## 5. Funding for 2009 and beyond

So far, the Partnership has received \$6,425 from membership dues. To stay on track with our budget, we will need to raise \$35,000. There are some organizations that did not donate until the end of last year, and we hope to receive those same donations later on this year. Because the watershed coordinator grant was taken away, we are going to have to increase our fundraising efforts. Becky and Sue met with the COO of St. Charles hospital the day before the meeting. He did not commit, however we are hopeful that they will be supporters in the future. The group discussed what other organizations would benefit from being members. Neal agreed to help with this effort.

One issue that was brought up was the \$7200 that is spent yearly on our office. We are going to look into possibly moving the office or having Becky work out of her home, with the Partnership paying for storage space. Another cost savings is that Becky will limit the number of people that receive the minutes and agenda's in the mail. There are some habitat enhancement grants out there. Becky will look into these and report on them during our next meeting.

## 5. Director's Report

**Newsletter** – Becky is working on the April newsletter. The topics of the newsletter are: updates on the RAs and Lutheran Home project, storm drain stenciling, DOCP website, GLLA, and 101 on watersheds. These will once again be mailed out to all the residents that live on one of the two creeks.

**Website** – The DOCP website has been updated. You can now find the following on our website: membership application form, RA's, Sediment report, Newsletters, Agendas, Minutes, Events, and Volunteer opportunities.

**Maumee AOC Summit Update** – Becky, along with Paul and Neal attended the Maumee AOC Summit, put on by Partners for Clean Streams, on February 24<sup>th</sup>. There were many interesting presentations on the GLLA project on the Ottawa river. We were also told that the Otter Creek TMDL report will be coming out in 2010 and the Duck Creek TMDL report will be coming out in 2011. One of the main goals of the Partners for Clean Streams this year is to complete the Maumee AOC Watershed Restoration Plan. Paul has already agreed to help with this project.

**Oregonfest** – Becky has signed the Partnership up to have a booth at the Oregonfest taking place on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 6:00. Becky will be unable to attend and asked anyone if they would like to volunteer. If no volunteers are found, Andrea said we could put DOCP information on the City of Oregon's table.

**Owens Community Environmental Fair** – Becky has signed the Partnership up to have a booth at the Owens Environmental Fair taking place on April 16<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 3:00. If anyone else would like to help out, they are more than welcome.

**Non-profit mailing status** – Becky applied for the Partnership to receive non-profit mailing rates. The application was approved. This means, for mailings of over 200 pieces (such as our newsletter) we will receive the rate of \$0.12 instead of \$0.43.

**Clean your Streams** – Planning for the 2009 Clean your Streams event will start this April. If you would like to be a part of the committee, please contact Cherie Blair or Becky.

**Walk, Paddle, and Roll Fundraiser** - Freshwater Future, a non-profit group up in Petoskey, MI, is putting on a Great Lakes Wide fundraising event called the "Walk, Paddle, and Roll Event". This fundraiser allows organizations from around the Great Lakes to pick a day to have an event which they can choose from a 5 mile walk, kayak, or 10 mile bike ride. Freshwater Future will provide a website that provides individualized web-pages for each organization to use for collecting pledges and donations, to forward the link to friends in e-mail requests and reminders, assistance to set up

your web page, a customizable media release for the event, and T-shirts for all the participants. Half of the net proceeds from the event will go directly to our organization.

This would be a great way to raise money, and get people from around the watershed involved. If you are interested in helping Becky put this event together, or if you have any ideas, please contact Becky. To learn more about this fundraiser, please go to [freshwaterfuture.org](http://freshwaterfuture.org).

**6. Financial Report and Updated Budget**

The 2009 budget as well as the 2009 Income statement was passed around

**7. Open Announcements**

Andrea mentioned that there will be a Drainage meeting Monday (March 23<sup>rd</sup>) in the City of Oregon.

**8. Next meetings**

- Full Board: May 21, 2009 – 2:00 pm location to be determined
- Steering Committee: time and location to be determined

Respectfully Submitted,  
Becky Simpson