

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2011

Midtown Carnegie Library

Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 AM

Watershed Committee Updates—Mr. Murr called the meeting to order. Mr. Keener presented checks to three recipients of the Fredrick Memorial Scholarship Fund: Mr. John Scheer, Mr. Andrew DeWitt and Mr. Benjamin Young. Mr. Kromrey stated the Watershed Center has site steward opportunities and is looking for volunteers to dedicate twelve hours a month.

Review of Minutes—Mr. Murr asked participants to review the February Monthly Meeting minutes and forward any additions or corrections to the Watershed Committee office.

Natural Environment Strategic Plan 2030—Mike Kromrey, Education Outreach Coordinator, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks—Mr. Kromrey gave an overview of the Strategic Plan process. Listening Tours provided feedback from the general public, and then thirteen chapters were created with two co-chairs. Mr. Kromrey stated he is the co-chair of the Natural Environment Committee. The Strategic Plan Coordinating Committee is now refining the plans. Each team used templates, creating consistency across the committees. Template A was the Vision Statement and Template B was the Guts. There were Four Cross Section Chapter Themes, regionalism, sustainability, minimize poverty and civic engagement. Inter-relationships of the committees were also considered. The Committee's had an online "Base camp", giving members a convenient place to talk to each other, discuss major goals and objectives and post all files. Mr. Kromrey stated the Natural Environment Strategic Plan is thirty-six pages including, but not limited to, trees and green space, water quality, population growth, improving local sources of food, clean air, encouraging low impact development, alternative transportation, water quality and sustainability. Each topic included a format including major goals, assumptions and objectives. Mr. Kromrey said citizens are encouraged to give feedback by visiting the city of Springfield's website and take the online Strategic Planning survey.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources Update—Cynthia Brookshire—Ms. Brookshire stated appointed Director, Sarah Parker Polley, has been confirmed. The DNR Water Resources Center and Corps of Engineers in Arkansas are involved in a new study in southwest Missouri. The study will indicate the future water quantity need through 2060 and includes thirteen counties; ten in Missouri, two in Kansas and one in Oklahoma and covers the Spring, Elk, Sac and White River basins. Ms. Brookshire stated once the information is compiled by DNR it will be given to the Corps of Engineers in Arkansas who will use a modeling tool to project the water needs of southwest Missouri, taking into account population growth, through 2060. A press release will be released and two public availability sessions will take place. One in the Joplin area on March 24 from 1-4:30pm and one at the Southwest Regional Office in Springfield on March 25 from 9am-12pm.

Regional Issues—Mr. Smith stated Monday at 1pm the USGS will review the Greene County Groundwater study. Mr. Vineyard stated the LAD Foundation is accepting applications with an April 25 deadline. Mr. Kromrey stated the Fellows Lake Clean-Up is postponed until Sunday, March 6th from noon to 5pm. Tammy Yelden stated the Table Rock Shoreline Clean-Up is April 2 and Water Watch Week is June 11-22 with a Water Quality Summit on June 17 and Volunteer Appreciation on June 18. Kenny Knauer said the Friends of the Garden magazine "Green" is now available. Megan Terry said the National Weather Service will have a Severe Weather Emergency booth at the Battlefield Mall on Saturday March 26 from 10-2pm.

Other Business—none

Meeting adjourned 8:34 a.m.