

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2015
Midtown Carnegie Library
Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 AM

Watershed Committee Update—Ms. Dierks opened the meeting. Mr. Kromrey said the Watershed Committee staff will be moving to the C.W. Titus Education Facility at the Watershed Center. City Utilities is remediating the area at 320 N. Main which requires the building to be torn down. WCO's Summer Newsletter is available and the Our Missouri Waters project will cover up to 8 counties in the Little Sac watershed.

Roll Call

Review of Minutes—June and August Meeting Minutes were reviewed.

"Trees are the Answer"—Casey Joe Kellner, Urban Forester, City of Springfield — Ms. Kellner said trees provide a multitude of benefits to the community including public health, safety, environmental, and social and economic benefits, and they help reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality. Some of the things the Urban Forestry Division is doing to protect and enhance the urban forest include a tree canopy policy, a cooperative tree nursery, reforestation programs, street tree inventory, Growing Together (a partnership with MODOT) and an annual Arbor Day Poster Contest. She said the City of Springfield just celebrated 30 years of being a Tree City USA recipient. Ms. Kellner said NeighborWoods, a reforestation program, has a yearly goal of 400+ trees planted by the City and then taken care of by participants. In 2012, the co-op tree nursery program replanted 1,000 seedlings and the general reforestation projects have a yearly goal of 300 trees planted. She provided a handout of Urban Forestry Division duties that detailed administration duties, tree canopy preservation and restoration and reforestation program duties.

Missouri Department of Conservation Update—Andy Austin — Mr. Austin stated the fish die off at Table Rock Lake is slowing down as it has moved from arm to arm. MDC has had successful hydrilla treatments and is seeing continued good results. He said the inspection teams have not found any new populations of hydrilla in the region. He said MDC will be stenciling invasive species on boat ramps (on MDC lakes and Corps reservoirs) to raise awareness. The first of 8 open houses begins September 29th in Van Buren and October 13th is the open house in Springfield. The topic will be about proposed changes to smallmouth and rock bass to improve the quality of those fisheries. MDC is a participating partner in Bass Pro Shops Outdoor Days which will be held in 7 venues around Table Rock Lake the weekend of September 12-13th.

Regional Issues—Gopala Gorchelt said the Corps of Engineers has a focus group for vegetated management plans that is encouraging input from the public on what to do about the trees, stormwater runoff, water quality, soil erosion and control and native grasses around Table Rock Lake. Contact her for more information. Ted Hillmer said the Fun Run at the Battlefield is September 19th at 5pm and the National Parks Service is giving an annual pass to all 4th graders to encourage them to visit National Parks.

Other Business— none

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.

Work Session Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2015

Watershed Committee Office
320 North Main Avenue
Springfield, MO 65806

Board Members Attending: Dan Hoy, Megan McKenna, Laura Greene, Bridget Dierks

Staff Present: Mike Kromrey, Kelly Guenther, Stacey Armstrong, Rob Hunt

Others Present: Tim Smith, Roddy Rogers

Ms. Dierks called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

1. Request for Additional Items— None

2. Corporation Business

a. Meeting Minutes — Minutes from the August Work Session and Monthly Meeting were reviewed. Mr. Hoy moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Greene seconded. Carried 4-0.

b. Financial Reports — Mrs. Guenther reviewed the August Financial Statements including Balance Sheet, P&L YTD comparison and Cash Flow Summary. Ms. McKenna made a motion to approve the financial reports. Ms. Greene seconded. Carried 4-0.

c. Location change — Mr. Kromrey said this is the last board meeting to be held at the 320 Main location. The logistics of moving to the Watershed Center are in good order including hiring Losh for the IT crossover. Stacey and Kelly will occupy the cubicle offices, Rob will office at the reception area and he will have a mobile desk.

3. Updates

a. Future office opportunity — Ms. Dierks said there is an exciting possibility for WCO. A donor approached the Community Foundation of the Ozarks (CFO) about a “bargain sale” property. Ms. Dierks presented the *WCO Property Opportunity* handout outlining the details, floor plans and pictures of the property. She said the Hood family is looking to “bargain sale” the Hood-Rich building on Glenstone through the Community Foundation. The building is 11,000 square feet and WCO could lease the office space. The WCO would be required to have office space there and keep the building for three years. At that time the building could be sold. Ms. Dierks said the family is looking to complete the sale by the end of this year. The board discussed the building space including parking, location, leasing potential, yearly expenses, environmental assessment and potential monies when the building is sold. Ms. Dierks said the family asks for the building to be named “The Jack and Fran Hood Center for Water Quality”. Same if it is sold and the money is used to build the second phase of the Watershed Center. Mr. Kromrey said he would get a list of logistics together and Ms. Dierks said she would schedule a walk through for next week. Mr. Smith said he sees no obvious objections.

b. Sponsor updates — Mr. Rogers said the Annual Tri-State Water Conference is October 22-23, 2015. Mr. Smith had no updates.

c. Staff Updates — Mr. Hunt said it is a busy field trip season and he will email out the schedule in case any board members would like to join a field trip. Ms. Armstrong said the Prescription Drug Take Back Day is September 26th and she handed out a flyer.

Other Business – None.