

**Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**March 3, 2017**  
**Midtown Carnegie Library**  
Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 AM

**Watershed Committee Update**—Ms. Greene opened the meeting.

**Roll Call**

**Review of Minutes**—February minutes were reviewed.

**Watershed Committee Update**—Mr. Kromrey said WCO has teamed up with a Drury Communications class and 2 events are planned: RSVPaint March 25-26 and one at the Cardinals baseball game, April 14. WCO will participate in Give Ozarks Day on May 9 and the Watershed Summer Gala is July 15.

**“Irrigation and Stormwater on Campus (on in your yard),”**— Joe Fearn, Head Groundskeeper, Drury University, Mr. Fearn said he tries to keep the rain on campus instead of creating stormwater runoff into the City’s stormwater system. He said some irrigation challenges include poorly designed, installed and maintained systems, poor communication of water needs for landscape health, lack of monitoring of natural rainfall timing and amounts, poor cycle planning and regular adjustments and no desire for water conservation. Corrective considerations include appropriate cultural practices (mowing height/frequency and soil health), and retrofitting of systems to deliver adequate water (coverage, pressure and volume). A culture of conservation includes a willingness to eliminate irrigation if appropriate with organizational strategy and retrofitting of systems to maximize system efficiency. Mr. Fearn said corrections could include replacing/repairing piping and sensors and using alfalfa pellets to fertilize the soil. He said stormwater challenges include the speed in which water moves off campus, erosion and damage, increasing infiltration on campus, treatment of water on site, budget pressures and to help the water slow, soak and spread into the ground. Corrective considerations include keeping the water on campus, take advantage of what the water wants to do, resource allocation, and go where the problem is. Mr. Fearn said one flagship stormwater feature on Drury campus was part of the Big Urbie project, managed by the Watershed Committee. He showed a picture of the concrete detention pond before and after it was retrofitted. He also showed the adjoining parking lot where the stormwater runoff was improved and native plants were planted. He said Sunderland Hall was an example of stormwater improvements on campus where a meandering path was made for the water and a small basin where the water could soak in the soil. Two other examples were the HPER Pool rain garden and the Smith Lot. Future projects include creating a rain garden basin by the Hammons Architect building. Mr. Fearn said a takeaway is that water must be a priority and things to do at home include mowing grass a half inch higher, plant native plants and be conscious of watering and nutrient addition. He said people could follow Drury Grounds on Facebook, twitter and Instagram.

**Missouri Department of Natural Resources Update — Postponed.**

**Regional Issues**— Deb Wilson said this year at the Mini-Maker Faire a live stream will be happening of the event. Tamera Jahnke said on August 21, the MSU stadium is reserved for the solar eclipse.

**Other Business**— none

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.

Minutes taken by Kelly Guenther