

Alliance of Downriver Watersheds

DRAFT Meeting Notes

April 3, 2008 9:30 am



- 1) Welcome: Craig Lyon of Taylor opened the meeting. In attendance were:

Designated or Alternate Community Representative:

- Lianne Clair, Van Buren Township
- James Gorris, City of Gibraltar
- Mike Kruse, City of Woodhaven
- Rick Lang, City of Allen Park
- Craig Lyon, City of Taylor
- Roy Schrameck, City of Rockwood
- Greg Tupancy, Urban Engineering for City of Southgate
- Bryan Wagoner, WCAA
- Eric Witte, City of Melvindale
- Brent Florek, Grosse Ile Township (alternate)
- Noel Mullett, WCDOE (alternate)
- Melvin Sheats, Huron Township (alternate)
- Dan Swallow, Van Buren Township (alternate)

Other Interested Parties:

- Dan Brooks, Wade Trim for Dearborn Heights
- Robert Burns, Detroit Riverkeeper
- Patricia, Huddas, MDEQ Water Bureau
- Michelle LaRose, OHM for Huron Township
- Ric Lawson, HRWC
- Patrick McCauley, Giarmarco, Mullins, & Horton, for Taylor and Dearborn Heights
- Kelly McRobb-Ackland, Wade Trim for Allen Park
- Donna Petry, Wayne Conservation District
- Vicki Putala, OHM
- Chuck Hersey, SEMCOG
- Jane Mackey-Cong, John Conyers Trenton Office

Allen Park
Belleville
Berlin Township
Brownstown Township
Dearborn Heights
Ecorse
Flat Rock
Gibraltar
Grosse Ile Township
Huron Township
Lincoln Park
Melvindale
Riverview
Rockwood
Romulus
Southgate
South Rockwood
Sumpter Township
Taylor
Van Buren Township
Wayne County
Wayne County
Airport Authority
Westland
Woodhaven
Woodhaven-Brownstown
School District
Wyandotte

OFFICIAL ACTIONS of the ADW taken at the meeting are shown in bold capitalized letters. *Action Items* for the future are shown in bold italics.

1) **Welcome and Introductions**

- a. Role Call of Alliance Members and Alternates Present – role call was performed and a quorum was present.
- b. Addition or Changes to Draft Agenda – There were no proposed changes to the meeting agenda
- c. Approval of January 24, 2008 meeting notes – **ACTION:** there was a motion by Romulus to accept the January 24, 2008 meeting notes. The motion was 2nd by Allen Park. Passed unanimously.

2) **Status Report on Membership in Alliance of Downriver Watersheds**

- a. Updated List, Budget & Map
 - A handout was distributed that provides a summary of ADW membership
 - All entities have joined except Inkster and Trenton. Inkster is discussing with Board members and Trenton has a jurisdictional permit.

3) **Standing Committee Reports**

- a. Finance
 - All communities made the 1st payment for those that received invoices.
 - Motion by Ron, 2nd by Allen Park, motion passes
 - Huron Township's resolution was just received. They have not yet been sent an invoice.
 - Van Buren – 1st installment sent only
 - There has been one new expense – FY08 1st quarter payment to Wayne County for IDEP work (fall monitoring). The IDEP report will be distributed at the next meeting.
- b. Ecorse Creek Watershed Advisors Group
 - The group is contacting MDEQ to try and meet with them regarding the TMDL discussion.
- c. Combined Downriver Watershed Advisory Group
 - There is nothing to report. The group has not met since the last ADW meeting.
- d. Lower Huron River Watershed Advisory Group
 - The group met and discussed the use of discretionary funds. There was interest in ads/brochure production specific to Lower Huron issues.
 - The group asked HRWC to put together a proposal using the available amount in the discretionary funds.
 - Tim Walsh was elected as new vice-chair of the group.
 - The group will continue to meet quarterly. The next meeting is June 25, 2008 at 9:30 at Wade-Trim offices.

4) **ADW Special Committees**

- a. Public Education Committee
 - There was discussion about the detention pond maintenance workshop
 - Taylor will host one, and they are looking for a second community to host another one – ***Brent Florek will check to see if Flat Rock can host the 2nd***

workshop.

- Wayne County will facilitate the workshop and provide handouts and speakers.
- Printing detention basin maintenance manuals will cost \$1240.50 for 350 manuals.
- The committee recommends approving a \$1500 budget for Wayne County. This budget includes the reproduction costs.
- A suggestion was made to combine the purchase of manuals with Rouge communities to get a lower unit cost.
- **ACTION:** There was a motion by Romulus to approve the \$1500 for Wayne County (not to exceed). The motion was 2nd by Melvindale. Passed unanimously. ***Noel will look into the feasibility of lowering costs by sharing with the Alliance of Rouge Communities.***

b. Technical Committee

- The committee received 11 proposals that met the necessary criteria for the grow zone grant. Two sites received conditional approval:
 - Dearborn Heights – Telegraph site
 - Wyandotte – Wilson Middle School
- Letters were sent to applicants indicating acceptance.
- Wayne County is in the process of selecting a design consultant.
 - Nine consultants were at the pre-bid meeting on 4/1/08.
 - There will be a meeting on 4/15/08 to review proposals and select a consultant. This selection committee should include a representative from Wayne County and one representative from each subwatershed group. The following representatives have volunteered to be a part of the selection committee:
 - Craig Lyon (Ecorse Creek)
 - Ric Lawson, HRWC
 - Noel Mullett, Wayne County DOE
 - Dan Swallow (Lower Huron River)
 - Brent Florek (Combined Downriver)
 - The committee will send a recommendation to the ADW through email and ask for votes to approve the selection of the consultant.
- There was a handout distributed on green infrastructure and land cover mapping.
 - There is funding in the grow zone grant for imagery and using Citygreen software. Obtaining the imagery is a requirement of the grow zone grant.
 - Wayne County received a letter from Sanborn summarizing the available data and associated cost (included in handouts).
 - The group needs to consider what data should be used to generate the land cover dataset for evaluation of grow zones (2005 NAIP leaf on imagery vs. 2008 USGS leaf off imagery)
 - The estimated cost to acquire USGS 2008 leaf-off imagery is \$41,400.69. The total budget available in the grant is \$37,000. The remaining \$4,400.69 may be covered through cost-savings on design or plant materials or through the use of discretionary funds.
 - The components included in the imagery are: impervious land cover, woody, non-woody, water, and barren land.
 - There was discussion about the value of obtaining the imagery. Some value items mentioned include: community planning tool, incorporate in

stormwater fees, calculate impervious assessment by parcel, manage/preserve existing green cover, and put a dollar value on green infrastructure in planning.

- **ACTION:** There was a motion by Van Buren Township to approve the purchase of the USGS 2008 leaf-off land cover imagery through Sanborn for a cost of \$41,400.69. The motion was 2nd by Romulus. Passed unanimously.
- *Noel and Greg Tupancy will discuss Southgate's land area for pricing of the imagery.*
- The flight will cover the extent of all communities, but analysis will be done for the ADW only. Communities can contact Sanborn if they want areas outside the ADW analyzed.
- A handout was provided by Ric Lawson showing the draft 5 year monitoring plan
 - Physical monitoring – there are fixed stations where data will be collected.
 - Flow monitoring – there are 7 sites (2 LH, 3 CDR, 2 EC) near or at grow zone sites.
 - Temperature monitoring – there will be max and min profiles at sites in association with macro invertebrate sites.
 - There will be 29 macro invertebrate sites.
 - Geomorphology monitoring will start this year at the 29 macro invertebrate sites. This will include a profile of stream segments and habitat data. Follow up will be done every 5 years.
- Biological monitoring will be starting soon
 - 29 macro invertebrate sites monitored in spring/fall.
 - Will coordinate with grow zone communities to get volunteers to help with monitoring.
- Green infrastructure monitoring will be conducted.
- Water quality monitoring was done as part of the IDEP monitoring.
 - Data collection in 2007 included dissolved oxygen, total phosphorous, E. coli, total suspended solids – will not be collecting in 2007.
 - A water quality monitoring plan is being developed for 2009 and beyond.
 - The focus this year will be on physical and biological monitoring.
- Maps of monitoring sites are available - contact Ric Lawson if you would like a copy.

5) **Status of SWPPI approvals/annual report reviews by MDEQ**

- Patricia Huddas reported that almost all SWPPIs have been approved. She is still reviewing the SWPPI submitted by Ecorse Creek. Two other communities still need to submit a SWPPI. One community has been requested to submit more information.
- Patricia reported that annual reports will be reviewed once SWPPI reviews are completed.
- All entities should have submitted the permit extension form by 3/31/08. If anyone has not sent it in, they should do so ASAP.

6) **Status of Draft Permit – comments to DEQ**

- Negotiations on the permit language are still ongoing. There are still a couple of issues that are not resolved.
- A meeting is scheduled on 4/4/08 to continue discussions.

7) **Opportunity for Public Comment**

- a. SEMCOG – update on Bolt by Chuck Hersey.
 - A handout was provided with talking points on the stormwater utility fees.

- SEMCOG is currently faced with two hurdles:
 - Trying to get legislature to pass a bill
 - Have the bill certified by the courts
- SEMCOG members, Miller Canfield, and MWEA are currently working together to craft a bill. A draft is expected to be completed by April 15th, 2008.
- SEMCOG is working with outer southeast Michigan communities to get their support
- The following information will be included in the bill:
 - Regulatory purpose
 - Responsibility to protect public health and welfare
 - Admittance that stormwater is a problem
 - Proportionality
 - Fees must be fair
 - If charging a fee, must be proportionate to something (impact, benefit) based on contribution to the problem
 - Formulas included in statute
 - Program fee must be voluntary
 - Provide an opportunity to receive credits
 - No property is assigned a fee until community determines they are contributing to the stormwater problem
- This would be an enabling statute. Communities would not be required to do anything unless they wanted to. The statute will provide support if communities want to implement a stormwater fee.
- Included will be a provision/appeal process. If someone thinks they are overcharged, they will have an opportunity to prove that they are contributing less runoff or implement changes to reduce runoff from their property.

8) **Summary of Action Items and Items for Next Meeting**

- Van Buren announced that Woods Creek Friends and HRWC will be hosting a renaming ceremony on April 22. Griggs Drain will be renamed to Woods Creek at the Woods Creek Pavilion in Lowe Huron Metropark.
- Bob Burns announced that there will be a Detroit River cleanup on April 19 at Trenton Rotary Park. See www.detroitriver.org for more information.
- SEMCOG and Wayne County can provide displays for community events. Staff may also be available upon request.

9) **Set Next meeting Date(s)**

- *The next meeting was set for August 14, 2008 at 9:30 am at the Taylor Meadows Golf Course.*

10) **Adjourn**

- There was a motion by Van Buren to adjourn the meeting. The motion was 2nd by Taylor.

Draft notes prepared by Michelle LaRose (OHM). *Please forward comments on the draft notes to michelle.larose@ohm-advisors.com.*