

*Approved 4/19*

## **Friends of Yellow Creek**

### Minutes of Meeting Held March 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

The Friends of Yellow Creek (FOYC) met at 3864 W. Bath Rd. in the Trustees Meeting Room on Monday, March 15, 2010. In attendance were Ron Czerski, Elaina Goodrich, Joe Hoffmann, Jim King, Matt Montecalvo, Marty Murphy, Mike Rorar, Sabet Sabet, Bill Snow and Tracie Tsai.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Marty Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jim King made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2010 meeting. Sabet Sabet seconded the minutes and they were approved.

#### **III. REMARKS OF THE CHAIR**

Bill Snow, Bath Township Administrator, attended the meeting to make an announcement regarding the Northeast Ohio Sewer District pending litigation with Bath Township. The complaint claims NEORSD, which is headquartered in Cuyahoga County, does not have authority to impose fees, taxes or assessments on Summit County residents. The NEORSD has proposed billing residential customers an average of \$4.75 per month, starting this year, to fund its Regional Stormwater Management Program. Commercial property owners would be billed based on the amount of impervious surface area on their land. Other plaintiffs in the complaint include Hudson, Macedonia, Boston Heights, Richfield, Sagamore Hills and Northfield Center. The three areas in Bath Township that currently have sewer hookup are Revere Schools, Brethren Lutheran Church and the I-77 Rest Stop. Bill advised the committee if they wish to correspond on the issue with the Northeast Ohio Sewer District to please contact the Township Attorney and discuss before communicating. He said that Bath Township does not currently have any grant applications pending with the NE Ohio Sewer District at this time.

Maryanne Rackoff and Jim White met with the legislative aid from U.S. Representative Betty Sutton's Office. A draft letter was submitted by Maryanne Rackoff on behalf of the committee to be submitted to the NE Sewer District and asked the committee's opinion on submittal. Jim King advised that the Friends of Yellow Creek should not correspond at this time due to the townships pending litigation. He feels the committee should not take a position and is disappointed they are taking in account grant monies. Matt Montecalvo agreed with Jim's position. Marty Murphy also made the announcement that Jim White was not going to comment on the pending litigation on behalf of the Cuyahoga River RAP stating they needed more information and were not sure how the sewer

district proposal would affect watersheds. A main concern are the current grants that are pending with communities on whether they are going to honor them or not and the concern that commenting may impact grant possibilities. Mrs. Goodrich suggested that if anyone on the committee wanted to comment on the situation they could personally but not as a representative of the group. Marty suggested the committee gather further information and if further discussion was needed it could be done at the next meeting.

Marty made an announcement that Rosalie Steiner will be receiving a Buchtel Award from the University of Akron Arts and Sciences College. The Natural Sciences division wants to acknowledge her life devotion towards the environment. Marty suggested that the FOYC send her a letter of congratulations on her award. Marty is going to draft a letter to submit to the committee at the next meeting.

Marty also made the announcement that Greg Smith and Jessica Hopkins would like to move their presentation to the committee concerning Water Quality Management to the April meeting. The main focus of the April committee meeting will be Water Quality Management.

#### **IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Joe Hoffmann reported that there was no new information to report regarding the Zoning Committees at this time.

Mike Rorar was in attendance to report on the status of the SWIFT Grant Applications that were submitted by the township. Mike presented a thorough PowerPoint presentation to the committee. Through the Storm Water Improvement Fund by the Ohio EPA there is \$1.25 million statewide and \$150,000 under each project. There is no match and 172 applicants. Project number one is the Garden Bowl. Under this project would be to block a culvert, cap a dam (3 ft. high and 30 ft. wide), add a new channel to the garden bowl, flood the garden bowl, proposed new plantings and eradicate exotic species. The total submitted for this grant was \$51,000. Project number two is the Moore's Chapel Wetland aka Moore's Chapel Wetland Restoration. The location of the project is on N. Hametown and it is not part of the NEFCO plan. It would be an 11.9 acre wetland restoration that was taken out of the Bath Creek Restoration project done in 2009. It would consist of dealing with Carlisle Muck Soil, taking the tributary and meandering through the wetland and tying into the Bath Creek Project, new plantings and eradicating species. The total submitted for this grant was \$72,000. Lastly, project number three is the Bath Center Permeable Parking Lot and Public Rain Garden. This project is part of the NEFCO plan #36 – reduce parking lot size/reduce imperviousness. The main parking lot would be the focus. A strip would be laid down as an under drain and dump the runoff into the rain garden, two inch resurface of the existing parking lot and adding permeable pits (4 ft. by 1 ft.).

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

The NEFCO Plan was discussed along with the 70 targeted areas within the plan. The Township owns 5 areas of the 70 areas presented. One out of the 70 areas has been complete, which was the Bath Creek Restoration. It was suggested that the committee should try to focus on areas #28 and #39. Thirty-nine deals with ground water recharge. Further discussion will take place at a later date.

Continued discussion was done regarding the Stream Naming. Ron Czerski presented each member of the committee with a map and guide. He explained the map grid and current stream names and dates that are already known. Further research is needed to verify the names currently being shown on the map. The naming committee will look at historical records and maps to verify information. Yellow Creek and North Fork seem to be the only official verified names at this time. Marty Murphy volunteered to take a look at the ODNR map. Jim King is still researching the USGS naming rules and will check into it further to report back to the committee. Ron Czerski was added to the stream naming committee. It was suggested researching pond names as well. Ron recommended formatting the map on foam board to take to Bath Community Day and other community functions. Elaina Goodrich suggested the possibility of presenting the map at a Trustee's meeting for citizen's comments. More research is being done at this time and the stream naming will be revisited at further FOYC meetings.

Water Quality testing will be presented at the April meeting.

Marty received an e-mail from Norma Setteur that Jason Little from Summit County Metroparks would like to make a presentation at the July meeting and that Mike Johnson would not be able to make it.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Someone asked if there were any projects available for the Boy Scouts to participate in. A suggestion was made to refer them to Bill Snow to become involved with Project Pride 2010.

The addition of Pond names was suggested to be added with the stream naming. A suggestion was to speak with Larry Hershey since he has grown up in Bath and may have the most information related to the subject.

Marty made the announcement if anyone had an agenda items to add to next meeting to please contact him.

## **VII. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be **Monday, April 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.** at 3864 W. Bath Rd., in the Trustee's Meeting Room.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Submitted by: Tracie A. Tsai