



MINUTES January 9, 2002

ATTENDEES

Alyssa Hawkins, Friends of the Miss. River	Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA
Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works	Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth
April Rust, MN DNR – Project WET	Maria Olson, Great River Greening
Barb Luikkonen, UM Water Resource Ctr.	Mary Gullickson, Volunteer Stream Monitor.
Ed Matthiesen, Shingle Creek	Michele Hanson, MN DNR
Jan Enquist, visitor Turtle River WS Assoc.- Bemidji	Pamela Jessup, Hamline -- CGEE
Jay Michels, MPCA	Rich Cairn, Cairn and Associates
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Ag.	Ron Struss, MN Extension Service/BWSR
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN	Sage Passi, RWMWD
John Bilotta, Extension Service – Carver Co.	Sarah Riddle, Eco Education
Julie Westerlund, MN DNR	Tara Roffler, visitor
Louise Watson, RWMWD	Tim Reese, HCD
	Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE

PARTNER UPDATES:

TIM REESE

The annual EnviroThon- a high school “quiz bowl” on environmental topics- will be held at the UM Landscape Arboretum on May 7th. The sign up deadline is in March however. FFI: Tim at H.C.D.- 763-420-2157 or tim@hcd.hennepin.mn.us

JAY MICHELS

MECA’s annual conference will be held March 7-9th, 2002 at the Doubletree Park Place Hotel in St. Louis Park, MN. The guest speaker will be Ron Shera. FFI: Jay at MECA- 651-351-0630 or jmichels@skypoint.com

ALYSSA HAWKINS

Friends of the Mississippi River is looking for info/handouts on basic lawn care. Please contact Alyssa at 651-222-2193 x6 or ahawkins@fmr.org

SUSAN CAIRN

Community POWER (Partners on Waste Education and Reduction) offers waste reduction grants, information and materials about waste reduction, and education and networking on waste issues. Check out the website at www.swmcb.org There are grants and training available through the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board (SWMCB). Please apply in partnership with community groups. FFI: Sue Cairn at 612-722-5806, www.swmcb.org or scairn@ties.k12.mn.us

METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS UPDATES

STEERING COMMITTEE (Ron Struss)

Returning Steering Committee members for 2002 are Tracy Fredin, Michele Hanson, Cliff Aichinger, Ron Struss, Jay Michels, and Jerry Spetzman. New members for 2002 are Tim Reese, and Margie Vigoren. Former 2001 members are Shelley Shreffler, Jim Falvey, and Connie Fortin. If anyone is interested in serving on the 2002 steering committee, please attend the next steering committee meeting at CGEE January 28th from 2-4 p.m.

METRO MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN (Ron Struss)

In 1999 the successful "Think Clean Water" campaign was carried out. Now we have applied for the Metropolitan Council grant and are still waiting to see if we are awarded the grant. In late January there will be another meeting to discuss the Point of Purchase Education Program for lawn fertilizer. Possibly designing posters and brochures for lawn care stores.

PROJECT NEMO (Jay Michels)

The first official NEMO presentation will be given at the City of Minnetonka on Monday January 14th. Other presentations are as follows: Hugo - Jan. 23, Lino Lakes – Jan. 26th. The city of Le Seuer has also expressed interest in NEMO.

STATE WIDE EXHIBIT (Ron Struss)

The state wide watershed exhibit would focus on lake shore and water front management. Presently we are awaiting word on whether we have received the 319 grant to build new inserts for the existing watershed exhibit.

VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING (Michele Hanson)

Kevin Proescheldt has just been hired at the VSM office. Nothing more new to report.

PHOSPHOROUS FERTILIZER LEGISLATION UPDATE (Jerry Spetzman)

During the past two legislative sessions the MDA has supported bills restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. It appears likely that bills will again be heard this coming session. The MDA has taken a neutral position on the issue and has been seeking a compromise position between various points of view. There are several issues which will need to be resolved in the next few weeks. These include: 1. pre-emption vs. no pre-emption, 2. 3% vs. 0% phosphorus, 3. twin cities seven county metro area vs. statewide, 4. Restrictions on use vs. restrictions on sales and use, 5. local enforcement vs. enforcement by MDA.

METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS AWARD PROPOSAL (Tracy Fredin)

The proposal is to recognize those supporting water resources education with a certificate. Cities that have passed lawn fertilizer management ordinances could be candidates for the first round of certificates or awards. There is a task force that will be meeting (Louise Watson, Tracy Fredin, Michele Hanson, Julie Westerlund) to discuss the ways to distribute a certificate to cities (and possibly others i.e. school districts) that have low or no phosphorous ordinances. The task forces first meeting will be on Jan. 23rd 1:00-2:30 at CGEE (Hamline University). All are welcome to attend.

MOVING AHEAD WITH K-12 PROGRAMS (Margie Vigoren)

At our last meeting it was decided to make K-12 education a focus for 2002. Margie facilitated a group discussion of this idea. 3 proposed goals are: 1. to design a matrix or geographical map showing the existing K-12 programs in the metro area, either by location, or subject, or some other category. This would require a lot of time and research. 2. Do we want to have a separate goal beyond the map as a goal for 2002? If we just design a map of the programs, then what will we do with that information? Should we take it further than that? 3. People from the WSP are needed to work on this. Volunteers staffing a group to analyze this issue are: April Rust, Rich Cairn, Jerry Spetzman, Margie Vigoren, Jim Heintzman, John Bilotta, Sage Passi, Louise Watson, Lyndon Torstenson, Alyssa Hawkins, Sarah Riddle, Peggy Knapp. The first meeting will be held Thursday, January 31st 2:30-4:00 at CGEE offices at Hamline. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings.

PROJECT NEMO PRESENTATION (Jay Michels)

NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials), is about linking land use to water quality. NEMO is an educational program for land use decision makers addressing non point source water pollution. NEMO uses colorful GIS maps to illustrate important water resource concept, like watersheds. At the heart of NEMO is an analysis of impervious land cover. The program contrasts current levels of impervious surfaces estimated from land cover data with projected future levels estimated from a zoning-based “build-out” analysis. NEMO promotes a three-tiered strategy for protecting water quality: natural resource-based planning, innovative site design, and the use of best management practices. The message is that water resources and community character can be protected, while accommodating compatible economic growth. NEMO is funded through Metropolitan Council MEP grant. For further information please contact Jay Michels at 651-351-0630, jmichels@skypoint.com or P. O. Box 17; Lake Elmo, MN. 55042.

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday January 28th, 2 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 2-4 p.m., at CGEE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday February 13th, 9 a.m.**, at the Dept. of Agriculture, St. Paul. Let a Steering Committee member know if you have an agenda item for the meeting. The WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11 a.m.

2002 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089
Jay Michels, 651-351-0630
Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269
Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506

Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192
Ron Struss, 651-215-1950
Tim Reese 763-420-2157
Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Pamela Jessup, 651-523-2591 / pajessup@gw.hamline.edu