



MINUTES

September 8, 2004

ATTENDEES

Alyssa Hawkins, Earth Force GREEN
Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
April Rust, MN DNR – Project WET
Barb Liukkonen, U of MN Water Resources Center
Brenda Erickson, CGEE
Irene Jones, Friends of the Mississippi River
Jen Collova, City of Farmington
John Bilotta, Extension Service – Carver County
Julie Grecian, guest

Kathy Ahlers, Kunde Co.
Louise Watson, RWMWD
Randy Thoreson, NPS – RTCA
Roger Ranthum, MPCA
Ron Struss, UM Extension
Sage Passi, RWMWD
Sarah Riddle, ECO Education
Theresa Heyer, US Forest Service
Tracy Fredin, CGEE

Welcome to Brenda Erickson, CGEE's new program administrator, who will provide support for the Partners. Her background includes various projects for the Grand Excursion and work in meeting planning, fund raising, marketing and project management. The Watershed Partners extend a hearty thanks to Carla Truax for her support during the summer and at the Minnesota State Fair.

PARTNER UPDATES

The UM Water Resources Center has published its Guide to Aquatic Invertebrates of the Upper Mississippi. Contact Barb Liukkonen at 612-625-9256 for information and ordering.

The Metro Children's Water Festival will be held Wednesday, September 29 at the State Fairgrounds. John Bilotta - 952-361-1814 - is in charge volunteer coordination.

The DNR's CD-Rom River Ecology is now available at the Minnesota bookstore.

UP-DATES ON JOINT METRO WATERSHED PARTNER PROJECTS

Watershed Exhibit

There was a general discussion of the watershed exhibit that will be continued following the next meeting. Among the points made:

- Only members can check out and use the exhibit.
- Metropolitan Council's funding has expired. Future funding will be discussed.
- The pump is leaking heavily and cannot be used. Repairs might be made. MPCA has a peristaltic pump that runs off a 12-volt battery and might work to keep the exhibit functional.
- CGEE will bring Table One to the October meeting. Discussion after the full group meeting will include an assessment of the life expectancy of the exhibit and what fixes would extend it.
- Vests for exhibit volunteers were suggested.

Note: At the Executive Committee meeting on September 27th, the discussion was postponed to the November Partners' meeting.

Report from the 2004 State Fair will be given at the October meeting.

Minnesota Water – Let’s Keep it Clean program – Ron Struss
The Tools for Cities section will be up on the Web site September 14th. Seth Mabbott at CGEE is working with Periscope to take over Web site support duties.

KARE 11 / StormCenter up-date – Teri Heyer
Water for Life is now much more visible on the KARE 11 Web site. Belinda Jensen is driving people to the site. A second Extra is expected in October. Send Belinda action stories on what’s being done at home to improve water quality.

Stormwater training modules for city staff – Ron Struss
Work will start with small staff work groups to discuss content and how to reach people. The focus is on city maintenance staff involved with grounds keeping and street and building maintenance.

Brochure and poster print jobs – John Bilotta
In December, we are printing a poster from a Periscope ad design and the “Green & Clean” brochures. Might we use a Puget Sound area poster?

PRESENTATION:

Friends of the Mississippi River – Vision, programs, and lessons learned. Update from one of the metro’s largest water-resources outreach organizations.

Irene Jones, Outreach Director

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, September 28, 1 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 1-3 p.m., at CGEE. NOTE THE TIME CHANGE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, October 13, 9 a.m.**, at the Department 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 to 11 a.m.

2004 STEERING COMMITTEE:

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|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089 | Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506 |
| Sharon Doucette, 651-714-3538 | Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192 |
| Jay Michels, 651-351-0630 | Ron Struss, 651-215-1950 |
| Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269 | Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105 |
| John Bilotta, 952-361-1814 | |

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Ron Struss at 651-215-1950