

Muskegon River Watershed Assembly
Education Committee Meeting Minutes
October 30, 2014
FSU Johnson Hall, Room 322

*****These minutes are not official until approved at the next regular meeting*****

Committee Chair LaLonde convened the meeting at 4:18 PM with the following present:

Jean LaLonde, Chair
Nancy Burmeister
Bill Burmeister, FSU

Cindy Fitzwilliams-Heck, FSU
Terry Stilson, MRWA Prog. Director

Agenda – Stilson added: STEM report under New Business.

N. Burmeister motioned to approve the agenda and the September 17, 2014 meeting minutes with Fitzwilliams-Heck supporting the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business

Teacher Workshop

- Fitzwilliams-Heck reported that if we want to increase the workshop to four hours it would qualify as a teacher training for the Aquatic WILD facilitators.
 - It was decided not to increase the hours of this first workshop.
- Copyright restrictions on the book will mean we cannot copy parts of the lesson to give to the teachers. Student pages can be copied. Facilitators could provide a summary of the lesson or put it on a projector.
- Fitzwilliams-Heck stated that this workshop would give the teachers the flavor of what they could get if they participated in a longer training workshop.
- **\$12 will be the fee charged (includes the meal and materials).**
- **Stilson will check to see if the MAISD would complete the SCHECH paperwork.**
- **Four topics will be used for the workshop. Possibilities include:**
 - **Invasive species**
 - **Stormwater runoff**
 - **Habitat changes**
 - **Place-based education**
 - **Water quality**
- **Aquatic WILD lessons will be used for the sessions.**
- **Schedule will be made later with first and last sessions longer than the other two. The first session will include an introduction and the last session will include reflections.**
 - B. Burmeister thought a uniform set of questions should be asked for the reflections.
 - Fitzwilliams-Heck thought an evaluation should be given to participants to complete as they go through the sessions and then collect during the last session.
- **There will be two lessons per session. Two facilitators could lead each session.**
 - Possible facilitators:
 - Jean LaLonde

- Cindy Fitzwilliams-Heck
- Nancy Burmeister
- Erica Johnson
- Vicki Sawicki
- Terry Stilson
- Alyssa Merten (Stilson will check with her)
- Janet Vail (Stilson will check with her)
- Jessica Wagenmaker will be in charge of the food and direct the program outside the session areas.
- **Fitzwilliams-Heck told about a new activity for invasive species and will get the information from the state facilitator.**
- **November meeting – bring books again, divide up and determine the topics and lessons each will do.**
- **Stilson will make changes to the flyer and distribute it to committee members.**
- **Flyers will be distributed to ISDs in January with the information in the newsletter, website, and Facebook. Other mailings will be distributed later.**

Prioritizing Education Committee activities – Stilson will send the Strategic Plan with Education Committee responsibilities highlighted for discussion at the November meeting.

- **A work plan will be discussed then.**

New Business

STEM Symposium report – N. Burmeister reported that she manned the MRWA display at the Stem Symposium at the Granger on October 29.

- About 80 people attended – mostly educators
- Ferris students and other groups gave demonstrations
- Program involved a guest speaker
- Good contacts were made
 - Distributed flyers, activity books and other MRWA publications

Next meeting – The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20 at 4:15 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Stilson
Program Director