

South Fork Kent Creek Watershed Stakeholder Planning Meeting #3

Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2019

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Webbs Norman Center, Boardroom

South Main Street, Rockford, IL.

Agenda

1. Review concerns, issues, values, and vision statement established at last meeting
2. Set goals and objectives
3. Review road map and future meeting dates
4. Adjourn

Attending

Ann Marie Cain (Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau), Dick Rundall (Parker Woods subdivision, Drainage Commissioner), Lou Ann Johnson (Parker Woods subdivision, Drainage Commissioner), Harlan Johnson (Parker Woods subdivision), Larry McFall (Rock River Water Reclamation), Allen Mills, Sean Von Bergen (Rockford Twp Highway Office), Dan Jarrett, Tom Lind (RPD), Rebecca Olson (OES), and Alyssa Robinson (OES)

Minutes

1. Tom Lind started off the meeting with an introduction.
2. Alyssa and Rebecca started with the presentation to facilitate discussion among stakeholders
3. Introductions: Why did the stakeholders come and what they want out of the meeting?
 - a. Information about what this plan will do
 - b. Make sure to highlight this is voluntary
 - c. Flooding/sedimentation problems from plugged drain tiles
 - d. Live on creek (Parker Woods)
 - i. Ponds in subdivision in need of restoration (algae, flooding, backup), RRWRD changed filtration/flow into the ponds and cut it off, negative to subdivision
 - ii. Cunningham, Weldon, N of Auburn, state st-trees felled in stream catching debris
 - e. RRWRD-required to follow nutrient reduction strategy
4. Review of last meeting (concerns, vision, enjoyments, basic overview of WSP)
5. Additional Concerns and Recognized Problems
 - a. Old tillage flooding
 - i. North of state st. -redo tile systems

- ii. Commissioners have to fund/levy or it is individual landowner responsibility
 - iii. Several miles of old tiles
 - iv. State to bypass 20-round pipe backup?
 - b. Ponds @ Parker Woods
 - i. South side of Cunningham ponds
 - ii. Ponds purpose: stormwater detention
 - c. Other contaminants like Chloride
 - d. Local monitoring from RRWRD (P is down but fecal coliform is high)
 - e. Downed trees in creek
 - f. Flooding over road picking up oil
 - g. Farm nutrients
 - h. Substandard sized culverts
 - i. Condition of culverts (N-S roads)-where waterways converge with check dams (Claremont, Parker Woods bridge and drainage is congested with settled sediment and debris)
 - j. Whole gradient of the stream-added pools and ripples, but there is a backup area near the lakes
 - k. Beaver dams and problems that may cause
 - l. Wanting to abide by Win. County surface water management ordinance
 - m. What were the levels of nitrates, phosphates, and fecal coliform in the IEPA Water Quality Assessment? Were they close to exceeding the standard levels?
 - n. Was anything else tested?
 - o. Is there funding for monitoring? EPA says no
6. Rock River Water Reclamation District representative, Larry McFall
 - a. RRWRD does testing for City of Rockford
 - b. Have tested below dam at Corbin St. and Heyes every year between 2005-present
 - c. 25% of samples are > 400 CFU with spikes of 15,000; 1,300; 1,000; 1,500; 2,000
 - d. Testing shows a decrease in P
 - i. 0.23 average in 2005→0.07/0.08 average fir recent year
 - ii. Levels of 0.1 for P and 25 ug/L for chlorophyll a are being recommended for Rock R.
 - iii. Either adopt theses recommended levels or come up with a good scientific reason to change them
7. Vision-review and edit
 - a. **DRAFT VISION STATEMENT from 8/28/19:** “We envision improving the water quality in South Fork Kent Creek Watershed in order to preserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife habitat, recreational attractions, and agricultural use of this natural resource for future generations to come.”
 - b. -----
 - c. Maybe add flooding in vision statement somehow?
8. Brainstorming goals
 - a. Address volume and velocity of water runoff to enhance water quality and prevent flooding (like goal #3 of Spring Br.)

- b. Education of community
 - c. Coordinate with local governing bodies–policy for future land use planning
 - d. Minimize erosion and sedimentation
 - e. Sustain and enhance the recreational opportunities of the watershed. (Levings Lake)
 - f. Protect, enhance, and manage wildlife and their habitat
 - g. Decrease contaminants in the water, including fecal coliform
 - i. Fecal coliform goal (address geese somehow? Huge problem at LEvings and other Parker woods lakes)
 - h. Land Use goal
 - i. Implement plan that provides recommendations for possible areas of increased development (acknowledge 2030 plan land use changes)
 - ii. Something missing in goals is acknowledges rural/agricultural lifestyle that is acknowledged in vision statement. Do we want to create a goal specific to valuing agricultural lands?
 - iii. Maybe convert more intensive land uses to less intensive land use?
 - iv. Preservation/enhancement of current and future lands uses
 - i. Planning for projected increases in rainfall
 - j. Creating larger bodies of water/detention basins as opposed to just tributaries
 - i. High flow basins
 - k. Areas to remeander? Straightening at S of Cunningham Rd.
9. Ideas for further communication and recruitment of stakeholders
- a. Paid Facebook ad
 - b. Post on R1 planning website and Winn County website
 - c. Continue signage at residential developments
 - d. Have handouts of maps, road map, and agenda
 - e. Sign at Levings lake
10. We did not get to part of Agenda items #3 Set Objectives. That will be covered at the next Stakeholder meeting.