

**Meeting Minutes Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** Montgomery Pavilion/Rec Fields, Montgomery

Attendees: Cynthia Scott, Paul Stanley, John Little, Wendy Scott, Brian Jerose, Linda Stanley, and Lindsey Wight

1) Meeting was called to order at **7:07pm with “welcome backs” and catching up. Discussed the benefits of Zoom meetings – perhaps we will rekindle these in winter months (i.e. January); also – a good way to bring in other people who are farther away.**

2) Review of April meeting minutes – **BJ motions; JL seconds; all in favor.**

3) Administrative business

ECO AmeriCorps member 2020/2021 – **young woman from TX; Lindsey will send around her resume.**

4) Outreach/Projects

Westcom’s: **Planted 90 trees along The Branch. Will follow up to see how things are leafing out. Kane’s would like more trees?**

Knotweed project: **Installed at Riverwalk Park. Signs are up to educate people. We may need to take it in in the winter. Also may to another pilot plot at Island View Park.**

Bugworks: **Ranier filmed Kurt doing a Bugworks session. Lindsey will send it around; please give feedback. Will reach out to summer programs through supervisory unions to see what we can offer. Also “Black Creek Adventure Camp” at Fairfield Center (might be interested in Bugworks, and also other programming (Ellen has ideas). Other camps?**

**Also, spend some of our E&O budget on signage where we’ve planted.**

“Green-Up Day”-like offering at swimming holes? **A barrier is how to distribute the bags, and also – what is the lure? Misty always does a good job with Montgomery; perhaps she can share some ideas.**

5) Grants/projects update

We will receive the DEC tree-planting funds next year; these will be allocated to Tony Brault’s.

No update on VAAFM CWIP funds: still unlikely. Impact of not having these – we’ll need to identify other funding to cover our ECO AmeriCorps costs.

Watershed Resiliency in our headwaters (HMF funds) – **could we do some sort of “Adopt-A-Site” program? Lindsey and Ellen will discuss; perhaps W&S can help with costs.**

Water sampling – **Wrights, Mill Brook, volunteers paired with landowners. Could be an opportunity to connect. Get test kits to do “pilots” this year.**

6) Events

AmeriCorps River Clean-up – **if this happens, we’ll secure boats and find a region. Do a video about this? Also, get people to pick up ditches (a little more accessible).**

Annual River Clean-Up – **planned for Westfield on July 18th. Just us? Small groups? Let’s identify a back-up site. We will require registration, and keep the groups small. Require masks.**

BGABGA – **Lindsey heard a rumor that they may try to have one concert in August, if allowed. We don’t want to step on toes, so we could just set up a table at the Summer Sessions concert.**

Other ideas: **people are staying in state, so we should highlight local tourism. Scavenger hunts along the river? Completion = entry to a drawing to win something.**

**We should be appealing to people for donations – remind them we are here and still active.**

7) Next meeting – July 2, 2020 – **Annual BBQ – start at 6:00pm**  
August 6, 2020 – **MRBA office**  
September 3, 2020 – **MRBA office**

8) Adjourn: **WS motions; JL seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:37.**