

## BCWMC Education and Public Outreach Committee Meeting Notes

1/8/10 – 9:00 a.m. - Golden Valley City Hall Council Conference Room

Members Present: Margie Vigoren, Ginny Black, Liz Thornton, Stu Stockhauss, Mary Karius (River Watch) and Pauline Langsdorf Guest: April Rust, DNR/Project Wet

### Crystal Environmental Advisory Commission Grant Report & Request for Payment

The committee accepted the report from the Crystal Environmental Advisory Commission and recommends payment of the grant invoice for the project "Score One for Mother Nature – Storm Drain Baseball". The Crystal group was successful in getting articles in the Sun/Post Newspapers, on local Cable TV Channel 12, in the Crystal City Newsletter, and had information available about the project at the Rockford Road Library, the Community Center and City Hall. They also used the BCWMC exhibit at City Hall, had information on the city website and distributed watershed brochures to local churches. Participation by residents was not as great as was hoped but the Education/Public Outreach Committee felt that the Crystal group made considerable effort to educate the public on the importance of keeping leaves etc. out of our stormdrains in order to improve water quality.

Recommendation: Approval of invoice payment for this grant. Money to come from 2009 Grant funds.

### MNAqua (DNR Program) Grant Proposal

We reviewed the MNAqua grant proposal from Dave Jackson for up to \$1,000 to reimburse the Minnetonka and Wayzata School Districts for the cost of substitute teachers so that teachers can attend MNAqua training. Mary Karius (River Watch), April Rust (Project WET) and Margie Vigoren all have knowledge of this program and spoke strongly of the benefits of having teachers take part in this water education program. We also would like to use any unused funds to help defray the cost of the Leaders Guides for the teachers.

Recommendation: Approval of MNAqua grant proposal for up to \$1,000. If not all funds are used to reimburse for substitute teachers that remaining funds be used to defray the cost of MNAqua Leaders Guides (\$30/each).

### Update on Joint EPOC – West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) – Meeting 1/6/09

The representatives from the Joint EPOC WMO's voted to name the group West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA). There are five WMO's in the group including River Watch. There also is frequent participation from Three Rivers Park District staff. WMWA continued to refine the purpose, goals, target audiences, and objectives of the group. Revisions were made to a letter to be sent to our WMO's requesting recognition of WMWA and specifying who will represent their WMO at WMWA. When the letter is approved by current WMWA participants the letter will be sent to the WMO's.

Originally this group met quarterly. Due to the amount of work to be done we have met more frequently and have decided that it will be necessary to meet at least monthly for the next three months. These meetings will be on the second Tuesday – 2/9, 3/9 and 4/13/10.

### Teacher Focus Group Planning

We decided that Stu Stockhauss will moderate the Focus Group and Ginny Black and Margie Vigoren will take notes. Liz Thornton will make arrangements for our food and take notes on the flip chart. Pauline Langsdorf will make arrangements for printing meeting materials and contacting teachers by e-mail with a meeting reminder and directions to the meeting site etc.

Materials the teachers will be able to take with them are colorful water posters from DNR, copies of our grant program requirements, Bassett Creek Watershed maps and lists of other printed resource materials. We also have on loan a display copy of Project WET materials.

Meeting notes by

Pauline Langsdorf