

Bassett Creek Watershed Commission Memorandum



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Date: January 11, 2010

From: Education Subcommittee

To: Bassett Creek Commission

Subject: Final payment to the City of Crystal for the Storm Drain Baseball Grant.

The Education Subcommittee received and reviewed the attached final report from the Crystal Environmental Quality Commission. The Subcommittee believes that the grantee met all of the criteria of the grant agreement and recommends the Commission disburse the requested payment of \$600.00.

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BARR ENGINEERING CO

November 24, 2009

Dear Shingle Creek Water Management and Basset Creek Watershed Commissions:

The City of Crystal Environmental Quality Commission has completed its Storm Drain Baseball project funded by a grant from the Education and Public Outreach Committee. Below is a table of the winners:

Date	Name	Address	Watershed
May 2009	JoAnne Walvatne	3118 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
May 2009	Jean Lynch	4749 Xenia Ave N	Shingle Creek
June 2009	Thomas Rhode	4017 Kentucky Ave	Shingle Creek
June 2009	Lisa Pramann	5526 Yates Ave N	Shingle Creek
July 2009	Mary Billings	3119 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
July 2009	Tina Pramann	5422 Xenia Ave N	Shingle Creek
August 2009	Mary Odell	3025 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
September 2009	Lisa Rambow	4239 Xenia Ave N	Shingle Creek
October 2009	Jan Birkholz	3137 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
October 2009	Debbie Kosidowski	3201 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
October 2009	Ken Schultz	3131 Yukon Ave N	Bassett Creek
November 2009	Marci Hyser	5716 Nevada	Shingle Creek

Each winner received a \$100 gift certificate to Prairie Moon Nursery. Copies of the invoices for the gift certificates are enclosed. Please submit the reimbursement to:

City of Crystal
4141 Douglas Drive North
Crystal, MN 55422-1696

Please contact Anne Norris, City Manager, at (763) 531-1140 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Kimberly Therres
Assistant City Manager

Report of the "Score One for Mother Nature" Storm Drain Baseball Activity

An Effort by the Crystal Environmental Quality Commission in 2009

Summary of the Activity

This "Score One for Mother Nature" Storm Drain Baseball Activity was a Crystal resident-involvement activity that began on March 18, 2009 and ended on November 15, 2009. A kick-off announcement was made at the Arbor Day event in Hagemeister Park on April 25, 2009. The Storm Drain Baseball activity included several different methods of educating the public about the importance of cleaning storm drains. Educational outreach efforts included:

- A two-sided accordion fold brochure that was made available in track racks at the Crystal Community Center and Crystal City Hall
- Bulletin board displays were posted at the Crystal Community Center and the Rockford Road Library
- A professionally designed "roller-shade" style display owned by the Bassett Creek Watershed Commission was placed in the foyer at City Hall in the summer months.
- Articles were published in the SunPost newspaper on March 12, June 4, and November 12, 2009
- A related segment aired on Channel 12 local cable channel the last week of March
- A brochure was distributed to four local churches
- An article and related information was placed on the City website:
http://www.ci.crystal.mn.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={3E72F0D5-EBC6-4186-8669-A969030C1587}
- Information was posted on the drive-by announcement boards by the Crystal Community Center and Bassett Creek Park

Residents who documented that they cleaned a storm drain at least once within the Bassett Creek Watershed were eligible for a prize drawing of \$100 gift certificate for native plants. All-totaled, there were six residents who participated in the activity and all names were drawn for a gift certificate. Names of the participants and winners are:

Date	Name	Address	Watershed
May 2009	JoAnne Walvatne	3118 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
July 2009	Mary Billings	3119 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
August 2009	Mary Odell	3025 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
October 2009	Jan Birkholz	3137 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
October 2009	Debbie Kosidowski	3201 Aquila Ave N	Bassett Creek
October 2009	Ken Schultz	3131 Yukon Ave N	Bassett Creek

The invoices for the gift certificates from Prairie Moon Nursery of Winona, Minnesota are enclosed.

How goals and objectives were met

The Crystal Environmental Commission believes that the main goal of educating the public about the importance of cleaning storm drains was met because of the variety of methods used to distribute the information. The goal of having wide-spread participation was less successful than desired, and the reasons are unknown. Some possible reasons for nonparticipation include:

- Residents believed they could not fit such activity into their schedule
- Residents had no interest in native plants
- This was a new and unfamiliar activity and residents may have thought the log keeping would be too difficult
- Some residents believe it is the duty of the City to clean the storm drains
- Other unknown reasons

The EQC believes that those who did participate will discuss the activity with others and that the education from this activity will be ongoing. Interest in the activity has reached far from the Crystal boundaries, and it is possible that other communities may create their own storm drain cleaning game of some sort. (A technician from the Marysville, Ohio Union Soil and Water Conservation District inquired about the activity after reading about it on the Internet.)

If you wish more information about the activity, please contact the Crystal Environmental Quality Commission.

Enclosed are:

- Log sheets from participants
- Brochures available to the public
- Entry form for the contest
- Article from the City newsletter
- The rule sheet
- Invoices for gift certificates

Report submitted by Jan Jorgens, Commissioner of the Crystal Environmental Quality Commission.
November 24, 2009

come up with of as part of the implementation plan. He stated that he spoke with Barb Piechel of the MPCA, who is the manager of the Mississippi TMDL study, whether or not she could extend her boundary to include Bassett Creek in that boundary. She said it is something the MPCA can consider. Mr. Kremer said that perhaps Ms. Loomis can bring the idea up at the next Mississippi TMDL stakeholder meeting and then the Commission could discuss the topic at the next BCWMC meeting after the next Mississippi TMDL meeting.

Mr. Kremer said that DNA fingerprinting of E. Coli samples is still in the experimental stage and would not be a viable option for the Commission to pursue at this time.

Mr. Kremer said he thinks it makes sense to collect the second year of data but based on the data the Commission has now he doesn't think the Commission can identify any area of the Creek that has a significantly greater problem than any other area. Ms. Loomis directed staff to bring this topic back in front of the Commission after the discussion at the next Mississippi TMDL Study meeting.

- C. i. **Medicine Lake TMDL Study Update and Select Representative for Medicine Lake Steering Committee.** Ms. Black reminded the Commission of the Medicine Lake Steering Committee meeting update e-mailed out from Michael Welch. Ms. Black added a brief update about the meeting. Ms. Black said the first half of the meeting was a discussion and three themes seemed to dominate the discussion including an equitable distribution of the load, the cost, and preserving or enhancing habitat where opportunities present themselves. She said the second half of the meeting focused on models.

Ms. Black said that the BCWMC needs to select a Commission representative for the Medicine Lake TMDL Study Steering Committee. Mr. Jordan responded that he would be able to attend some of the meetings and would be willing to share the role of representative with another commissioner but would not be able to attend each meeting. Ms. Black asked Mr. Jordan to touch base with Mr. Welch about alternating the meetings.

ii. **Wirth Lake Steering Committee Representative.** Mr. Kremer said the BCWMC is looking for a commissioner that can represent the BCWMC on the Wirth Lake TMDL Study steering committee. He said the steering committee will hold approximately four meetings. Mr. Kremer reminded the Commission that Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Mn/DOT, and Hennepin County are MS-4s for the TMDL. Mr. Stauner said he could probably be the Commission's representative and asked Ms. Herbert to contact him regarding the date of the first meeting. Ms. Black said she could be the alternate representative. The Commission directed Ms. Herbert to add Mr. Stauner as the representative and Ms. Black as the alternate representative to the Wirth Lake Stakeholder list.

D. **Education and Public Outreach Committee**

- i. **Grant Reimbursement Request from St. David's Child Development & Family Services.** Ms. Langsdorf reported that the Education and Public Outreach Committee recommends payment of the invoice from St. David's in the amount of \$366.68 out of the 2008 demonstration/ grants budget item. Ms. Langsdorf noted that the BCWMC previously approved up to \$1,000 in education grant funds for this grant. [See following motion for approval.]

ii. **Grant Application from Crystal Environmental Quality Committee.** Ms. Langsdorf said the BCWMC received an education grant application from the City of Crystal's Environmental Quality Committee. She said the grant would help support a city program

called "Score One for Mother Nature and the storm drains in the Bassett Creek watershed – Storm Drain Baseball." Ms. Langsdorf said the Education and Public Outreach Committee recommends the BCWMC fund the grant in the amount of \$700 from the 2008 demonstration/ grants budget for payment in 2009. Mr. Stauner moved to approve both the grant reimbursement request from St. David's in the amount of \$366.68 and the funding of the grant application from Crystal's Environmental Quality Committee in the amount of \$700. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously [Cities of Medicine Lake and Minnetonka absent from the vote].

iii. Proposal to Carry-over 2008 Budgeted Funds to 2009 Budget. Ms. Langsdorf stated that in 2008 the BCWMC approved a \$1,000 grant from the Commission's demonstration/ education grant budget line for the Blake School's rain garden project. Ms. Langsdorf said the Education and Public Outreach Committee would like \$1,000 carried over from the BCWMC's 2008 demonstration/ education grant budget to its 2009 demonstration/ education grant budget. She said the Committee also recommends carrying-over \$700 from the 2008 demonstration/ education grant budget to the 2009 demonstration/ education grant budget for payment of the Crystal Environmental Quality Committee education grant. Ms. Langsdorf moved that the BCWMC carry-over \$1,700 from the 2008 demonstration/ education grant budget to the 2009 demonstration/ education grant budget. Mr. Stauner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously [Cities of Medicine Lake and Minnetonka absent from the vote].

iv. Proposed 2009 Watershed Education Partnership with Metro Blooms – Rain Garden Workshops. Ms. Langsdorf stated that in the spring of 2008 the Education and Public Outreach Committee budgeted \$1,000 to support the Metro Blooms Rain Garden Workshops in 2009. She reported that the Committee recommends that the Commission increase its level of support of the Metro Blooms Rain Garden Workshops by \$1,000 for a total of \$2,000 in 2009. She said the Committee recommends the BCWMC move \$1,000 out of the 2009 CAMP budget and into the 2009 Watershed Education Partnerships budget.

Ms. Langsdorf moved to approve funding the 2009 Metro Blooms Rain Garden Workshop program at \$2,000 instead of the previously approved \$1,000 and to move \$1,000 out of the 2009 CAMP budget into the 2009 Watershed Education Partnerships in order to fund the \$1,000 increase in support for the Metro Blooms program. Ms. Loomis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously [Cities of Medicine Lake and Minnetonka absent from the vote].

[Commissioner Templeman arrives].

Ms. Langsdorf said if cities are interested in hosting a workshop they can contact Metro Blooms and that the cities do need to be aware that there is a cost of \$750 to host a workshop.

Ms. Thornton noted that in page 2 of the Education and Public Outreach Committee meeting minutes the reference to St. Joseph should be a reference to St. David's.

v. Proposal to Amend 2009 Budget – Deferred to February BCWMC meeting.

E. 2008 Water Quality Monitoring Program. Mr. Kremer stated that the annual report for Bassett Creek on water quality monitoring is being prepared by Barr Engineering. He said the