

## **BCWMC Education and Public Outreach Committee Meeting**

**January 8, 2008 – Plymouth City Hall – 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM**

Those present: Margie Vigoren, Richard Johnson, Pauline Langsdorf and Liz Thornton.

Featherlite Invoice – The committee reviewed and recommends approval of the Featherlite invoice for our new retractable exhibit. Our exhibit will be pickup up when the BCWMC approves paying the invoice.

Joint EPOC Survey – The committee is anxious for as many commissioners/alternates, city staff (TAC) and BCWMC consultants as possible to attend the presentation by Decision Resources on the interpretation of the Joint Watershed Residential Survey. The date and time of this presentation will be given you as soon as we have it scheduled.

Education and Public Outreach Activities in 2007 – We reviewed the committee activities from 2007.

### **Accomplished in 2007**

- 1) Designed and Developed Two Exhibits. The first exhibit piece is a foldout table-top exhibit on which photos and text can be attached using Velcro tabs. It is stored in the Crystal Community Center and is available for use by all BCWMC cities.  
The second exhibit has a permanent message and is an extremely light-weight retractable exhibit that can floor standing or shortened to use on a table-top and also is available to all cities within the Bassett Creek watershed. The main message is “Clean Water – It’s Up to You”.
- 2) Worked with a Designer and had a New Logo Created. This logo is used on our retractable exhibit and will be used on our stationary.
- 3) BCWMC Commission Members Staffed Booths at several Events in St. Louis Park and in Plymouth. Our new foldout table-top exhibit was used for three events in St. Louis Park - Earth Day, an Environmental Fair, and a City-wide Festival. In Plymouth we used our exhibit and assisted with brainstorming the design of and staffed activities at the Pilgrim Lane School Eco Fair and the Plymouth Yard and Garden Expo.
- 4) This Committee Assisted with Forming the Joint EPOC. This organization is made up of members from four western/northwestern Hennepin Co. WMO’s who share ideas and resources for watershed education and public outreach. The Joint EPOC is staffed by Judie Anderson, of JASS, and Diane Spector, of Wenck.
- 5) Participated in Design and Oversight of the Joint Watershed Residential Survey which was Funded by WMO’s of the Joint EPOC. This survey was conducted by Decision Resources, Ltd. The raw data has been received and a meeting will be held to present the findings.
- 6) Started a Grant Program Funded through the BCWMC. Advertised grant program and by the end of the year had approved three grants - 1) Metro Blooms for rain garden workshops, 2) Pilgrim Lane School/Eastman Nature Center for watershed education program at the school and the nature center, and 3) St. David’s Child Development and Family Services Grant for teacher training using Project WET and Project Wild/Aquatic materials from the DNR.

Committee members have volunteered a lot of time to our watershed education and public outreach projects and we reviewed our year in order to see what we have accomplished. Our committee is made up of commissioners, one former commissioner and a staff member from the City of Plymouth. The Plymouth staff member has been invaluable to us as she takes part in WaterShed Partners meetings and through this participation brings information to us of what is taking place in other water focused organizations including other WD's and WMO's in the Twin Cities area. Our committee members have shared the responsibility for designing and keeping various projects on track. We decided that although very demanding of our time, it has been time well spent.

Project Planning and 2009 Budget Recommendations will be discussed at Future Meetings.

Next Meeting. Our next meeting will be scheduled following the meeting on interpretation of the Joint Watershed Residential Survey results.

Notes by Pauline Langsdorf