

**BMW Information/Education Committee
&
BMW Watershed Plan Committee
Thursday, August 16, 2007
City of Aurora Municipal Center
15151 E. Alameda Pkwy, Aurora, CO
(Rocky Mountain Conference Room, 3rd Floor Utilities Dept.)
1:30 – 4:00 p.m.
- DRAFT Meeting Summary -**

In Attendance:

Christine Hethcock – Beebe Draw Metropolitan District
Jill Piatt Kemper – City of Aurora
Mary Dawson – City of Aurora
Steve Lundt – Metro Wastewater Reclamation District

Blair Corning – South Adams County Water and Sanitation District
Laurie Rink – Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company
Dennis Stowe – Littleton/Englewood Wastewater

Consultants/Guests:

Alice Wood – Integral Consulting

Meeting Objectives

- Discuss past and upcoming I/E activities
- Plan for the BMW Annual Meeting
- Discuss stakeholder survey methods
- Review 2007 Watershed Plan figures and text progress
- Brainstorming: How to present technical concepts to non-science audiences

I. Opening

- Alice gave a brief overview of the agenda and passed around a sign-in sheet.
- I/E Committee meeting minutes from the past committee meetings (I/E: June 28, 2007; Watershed Plan: July 12, 2007) were approved with no changes.

II. I/E Activities

- Lakes Appreciation Month: Steve provided a recap of the Lakes Appreciation Month event. All parties who participated are interested in hosting this event again next year. Improvements for next year will hopefully include: (1) Sound system, (2) Extra food, (3) Speech by a very prominent public figure, (4) Lower water in the reservoir/more trash
 - Some money (about \$500) is left over. This money is currently being held in the Barr/Milton bank account. The money will probably be kept for next year.
 - The planning groups will start meeting again next year to plan the 2008 event.

- Steve thinks that both CLRMA and Americorps will likely be interested in participating again (although Barr will not be CLRMA's "lake of the year" in 2008)
- Poster Presentations: Alice described the upcoming poster events include the Barr Lake Birding Festival (September 15), the South Platte Forum (Sept. 24 – 25), the Colorado Watershed Conference (Oct. 2 – 4), and the Cherry Creek Forum (Nov. 2). The poster this year will focus on the Watershed Plan. Jill and Alice submitted an abstract for the SP Forum. The same poster/abstract will be used for the other events.
 - Laurie may be able to staff the Barr Lake Birding Festival poster
 - Steve or a person from the City of Aurora may be able to staff the Cherry Creek Forum poster
 - Alice will look into what we need to do to have a poster at the Colorado Watershed Conference. Alice will attend the conference for Barr/Milton and can staff a poster.
 - Would the group like to staff a poster at Littleton/Englewood's World Water Quality Monitoring Day event? (Thursday, October 18)
 - Both kids and adults will attend the event.
 - Discuss this again at next I/E meeting.
- World Water Quality Monitoring Day (WWQMD): The group discussed how they might participate in WWQMD this year (Sept. 18 – Oct. 18). Littleton/Englewood WWTP always hosts a day-long event. Ideas discussed include:
 - Barr/Milton may host a poster at this event.
 - Barr/Milton may team with a class to conduct water quality sampling.
 - Steve and Darcie can discuss this. Alice will ask Darcie to contact teachers to see if any of them are interested.
 - Steve noted that it might be easier to conduct sampling on a stream/river than at either of the lakes due to muddy shorelines and low water.
- Other activities: Alice reminded the group that Barr/Milton will try to field a team for the Cherry Creek "Run for the Watershed Event". Dennis, Laurie, and Steve said that they might be interested in participating.
- Newsletter: Dennis passed on the sad news that he would like to retire as Cub Reporter of *The Barrimeter*, in order to participate in the Budget Committee. Mary Dawson volunteered to serve as Co-Editor with Sharon Henderson Davis. Dennis said that Page Parker at Littleton/Englewood could still do formatting/publishing.
 - Dennis listed a few potential topics for upcoming issues:
 1. Lakes Appreciation Month (feature article)
 - a. Christine Hethcock as "BMW Kind of People"
 2. CDPHE-WQCD article (who does what)
 - a. Randy Ristau and/or Joni Nuttle as "BMW Kind of People"

III. Annual Stakeholder Meeting (August 28)

- The group discussed plans for the Annual Stakeholder meeting. The meeting will be held at Pelican Lake Ranch community center. FRICO will provide tent, chairs, and people to cook. Barr/Milton (Alice) will provide food.

IV. Fact Sheets (a new frontier?)

- Due to time restraints, this discussion was held until a later meeting.

V. Watershed Plan Sections Review

- Alice noted that she met individually with all of the Watershed Plan section lead authors. Progress is underway and will be discussed in more detail at the next Watershed Plan Committee meeting.

VI. Watershed Plan Draft Figures Review

- Alice gave a brief overview of how the I/E and Watershed Plan committees might have overlapping goals right now: conveying complex scientific information to diverse, often non-scientific, audiences. The drafted and revised Watershed Plan figures were laid out, and Alice encouraged people to write comments directly on the figures.
- Steve presented several figures and plots/charts as examples of ways to present lake data.
- The group discussed aspects of the figures that they liked/disliked and brainstormed on how to present technical information to a non-technical audience.
 - Dennis pointed out that it is helpful to go in stages: (1) This is what the problem is [e.g. pH]; (2) Here's where it comes from [e.g. Chl a]; (3) Here's where that comes from [e.g. nutrients]; (4) Here's how much there is [e.g. effluent flows].
 - Jill pointed out the need to make figures/products now that will lead us to and through other stages of the project, for example, figures that show seasonal changes in the lakes.
 - Blair reminded the group that it is important to use figures to describe what we're seeing, but to not let the figures drive the real message.

VII. Next Steps

- The next I/E Committee meeting was set for Thursday, September 20 at the City of Aurora Municipal Center from 1:30 – 3:30
- The next Watershed Plan Committee meeting was set for Thursday, September 6 from 9:00 – noon at Metro.

The meeting ended at approximately 4:30 p.m.