

# Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

## *Lower Green Bay and Fox River Area of Concern*

October 24, 2013, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District Training Room, 2231 N. Quincy Street, Green Bay

### **Attendance**

Kathy Lefebvre, Julia Noordyk, Vicky Harris, Jim Jolly, Annette Pelegrin, Laurel Last, Janet Smith, Stefanie Stainton, Jeff Mazanec, Ben Uvaas, DNR-Guest Speaker

### **Menominee River AOC-Restoration projects and Outreach (Ben Uvaas, WDNR)**

The Menominee River was designated an AOC under the US and Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and includes 2-1/2 miles of river, to the Green Bay and some Green Bay shoreline. This AOC started off with 6 BUIs, but now has 5 BUIs because beach closings BUI is off due to WWTP upgrades. The Menominee River AOC groups want to get delisted ASAP. They are not as pro-business as other AOCs.

#### *Partner and Partner Roles:*

The WDNR and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) jointly steer the AOC boat because the AOC spans 2 states. The CAC helps with RAP development, local outreach and ambassadorship (they found more positive outreach response using citizens), letters of support. The Technical Advisory Committee does RAP development and project management.

#### *BUIs:*

- 1) Fish and Wildlife Habitat &
- 2) Populations are lumped together—Projects: Protecting and restoring fish and wildlife habitat and populations using citizen science wildlife counts, working on invasive species. Fish are important in RAP-- Sturgeon-fish passage restoration. They are doing a lot of comparison to reference sites. Green Island is a 90 acre island that is privately owned and is a massive rookery for colonial nesting birds.
- 3) Benthos degradation is tied to cleanup of contaminated sediment
- 4) Restrictions on dredging
- 5) Fish consumption advisories --Projects: AOC fish tissue assessment-looking for PCBs and dioxins. This could be the next BUI that is delisted.

#### *Sediment Sites:*

- One site contains paint sludge contaminants. The Lloyd Flanders Wicker Furniture Company purchased the property that was contaminated with paint sludge and they paid for the cleanup (paintballs) = success.
- PAHs (Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)-Wisconsin Public Service cleaned up this site (tar globs)-16,000 cubic yards sediment removed = success
- Arsenic-contaminated sediment is on the Tyco-Ansul site. Years ago a company produced pesticides, herbicides, and cattle feed. They ceased production in 1977. Now Tyco-Ansul just produces fire suppression supplies and equipment. The arsenic contamination is in the form of a water soluble salt on a 50 acre property. This results in groundwater contamination. The cleanup project includes on-shore remediation and will include at least 10 years of monitoring natural recovery. Tyco-Ansul is paying for the cleanup and is currently paying \$1million/day to move the project along quickly.
- There are 2 other sites that are being looked at for contaminated sediment.

### **CAC Input on RAP Update (Laurel)**

Laurel concentrated on the outreach and stakeholder engagement sections of the RAP. The CAC reviewed the stakeholder engagement table and we will add a column for dates and ongoing projects. The BUIs were listed separately in the document. It was noted that we need more on-line information on BUIs. We need to inform the decision-makers in the basin about BUIs. They are very key to getting AOC related projects completed. A PowerPoint presentation is needed for media coverage and articles. Timing is critical to get into budgets for projects. Need to have outreach so that decision-makers/politicians are excited and can grab onto something exciting and timely, like the "Dead Zone." We could consider a Kayak trip or Foxy Lady cruise and invite politicians. We can get decision-makers on the water to tell them what is wrong and how to fix it. NEW Paddlers would be available to help. YouTube 90 sec. shots would help. The CAC and Outreach subcommittee should consider other target audience-decision-makers. And timing is an issue. The Office of the Great Lakes is going to work on overview video for the AOC.

### **State of Lake Michigan (SOLM) Conference (Vicky Harris)**

The conference had a rocky start because of the government shutdown but despite some cancellations it turned out well. Some of the larger sessions were botulism and the changing food web: Quagga mussels, nutrients. Invasive species are the root cause. Another large session was TMDL and nutrient reductions in the Lake Michigan Basin, nutrient trading and adaptive management.

### **Other announcements and key dates (Annette)**

- TMDL presentation at the next meeting
- Bay Beach Project presentation at the next meeting
- We need to make some decisions on support grant ideas next month