

# **Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Notes**

*Lower Green Bay and Fox River Area of Concern*

January 16, 2014, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

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

## **Attendance**

Jim Jolly, Bill Hafs, Bruce Deadman, Jeff Mazanec, Pat Finder-Stone, Kathy Lefebvre, Julia Noordyk, Annette Pelegrin, Kaira Kamke, Laurel Last, Janet Smith, Chad Cook, Mike Bryant via teleconference

## **AOC Outreach Subcommittee Report (Julia Noordyk, Wi Sea Grant)**

The AOC Outreach meeting reviewed the top 4 outreach activities garnered from the last meeting. The committee reviewed

- State of the Bay Report—we'll use it as a resource, since Sea Grant will distribute it.
- Bay Beach Restoration Project-Angela Pierce answered questions and the committee decided that we could possibly provide support to this project in the future, but outreach is not needed at this time.
- Legislators and community decision-makers could be a target audience
- BUIs-defining key messages, events and activities –many are interested in pursuing this activity

At our next meeting, we'll look for input from our AOC Citizens Advisory Committee.

## **Support Grant Ideas-Final choices (Annette)**

Based on a survey of CAC members at the last meeting, the following support grants will be submitted on behalf of the CAC:

- AOC...On the Move --Kayak Outings through Barkhausen
- "Send your Legislator Down the River"
- AOC Publication Development
- Citizen Science
- CAC Sponsored Boat Tour

## **Committee Input-Agendas for next few meetings, speakers, field trips (Annette)**

The CAC would like to schedule a field trip to Point Sable in the spring, possibly during the time the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity is doing warbler mist netting. We can meet at the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity and go on the tour from there.

For the next few meetings, the outreach subcommittee will solicit input from the CAC and we'll have the following speakers: February 20th-Bruce Deadman, Ducks Unlimited; March 20th-Bill Hafs & Jim Jolly, BACC Phosphorus committee.

## **Green Bay and Fox River AOC Overview Presentation (Laurel Last, WDNR)**

Laurel gave this presentation about our own AOC. She has given similar presentations to the Fox River Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Trustee Council and other groups. Laurel's full PowerPoint presentation can be accessed at:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/aocs/fox-river-green-bay/outreach-materials/>

The presentation focused on all 13 BUIs but she broke them into categories 1.) BUIs related to toxic substances and 2.) BUIs related to “runoff.”

PCBs, phosphorus and suspended sediments are the major pollutants in our AOC. The Fox River Contaminated Sediment Remediation Project addresses BUIs related to toxic substances and is expected to run through 2017. DNR testing and long-term monitoring will take place prior to BUI delisting. The angler survey assesses tainted flavor BUI; report will be in within the next few months.

BUIs related to “runoff” are impairments caused in part by excess phosphorus and TSS. To The TMDL implementation plan will help address these issues. Other projects in and around the AOC are in progress that will address BUIs in this category. For example the Cat Island Chain restoration will address Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat and progress on this project is already having an effect. The wave barrier is giving stability to sediment so good species can grow behind it. Plants are doing much better in the protected section. Also, the Point au Sable wetland restoration is entering Phase 2 and the West Shore northern pike habitat restoration is ongoing, as well as other projects.

In summary, with 13 BUIs in our AOC, impairments are caused by PCBs and other toxics, phosphorus and suspended sediments, and physical habitat alterations. However, progress is being made with Fox River sediment remediation, TMDL implementation, habitat restoration projects, and monitoring and assessment. Challenges remain, but many partners are working together to restore this AOC.

#### **Other announcements and key dates (all members)**

- Ducks Unlimited Wisconsin State Convention, January 24-25 in Green Bay. See [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org) for more information
- Thursday January 28, 6:00-8:00pm. "Sustainable Suds: Pairing Conservation and Clean Water" at the Libertine, 209 N Washington St, Green Bay. Event held by WI League of Conservation Voters
- Conservation Lobby Day, February 11, <http://conservationvoters.org/act/events/conservation-lobby-day-2014/>
- The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance Conference is March 4-5, see [www.fwwa.org](http://www.fwwa.org). It will be held at Bridgewood in Neenah.
- The National AOC Conference will be held in Chicago this year on March 18-19. CAC members can attend and travel expenses will be reimbursed. An e-mail will be sent to CAC members regarding this event. Let Annette or Laurel know if you are interested. Julia Noordyk is interested.
- **Our next regular AOC CAC meeting will be February 20th.**