

Arcadia-Pierport Watershed Plan

Minutes from the Leadership Team meeting of March 11, 2015

Location: Pleasant Valley Community Center in Arcadia, 11am to 1pm

Attendees: Sharon Goble (Co-chair), Don Oswell, Josh Shields (Forester, Manistee Conservation District), Mary Reed, John Steben, Kirsten Sheffield (Manistee County Planning Department).

Agenda: 1) Open discussion

Discussion Items:

- 1) Welcome and introductions
- 2) Discussed the critical need for fund-raising. Letters of Support have been submitted to the Alliance for Economic Success from Blaine Township, Joyfield Township, and Arcadia Township. The Onkama Township letter was expected but has not yet been received. Still need to contact Pleasanton Township-they have been supportive in the past. Other Letter of Support contact suggestions were made including the Manistee County Community Foundation, the Manistee County Planning Commission which meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, Michigan State University Extension (Elaine Bush), Mason-Lake Conservation District (Murray Stall). Mary to forward fund raising information to Sharon. It is critical to meet the 50% match of the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) grant, as well as raise an additional \$20,000 in order to complete the watershed plan by the due date of the CZM grant. (See item 5 below).
- 3) Discussed other outreach contacts including the Lions Club in Arcadia (meetings commence in May and run through October), and the Manistee Spring & All Music Festival (held on Saturday, March 21st from 3pm to 8pm at the Ramsdell Theatre. A table space has been confirmed. On March 25th at 7pm there will be a meeting of the Manistee County Township Association at the Brown Township Hall.
- 4) Josh suggested that outreach should include information on economic strategies that may help address watershed issues including soil testing to avoid the cost of fertilizer over-application on individual properties.
- 5) A grant extension is being sought for the Coastal Zone Management grant. A draft of the extension proposal appears to support extension of the grant until August 31, 2015, but this has not been finalized yet. Sharon to find out more information about the status of the extension.
- 6) It was proposed to hold the April meeting on Monday, April 6th from 11am to 1pm since Sharon will not be available on the usual second Wednesday of the month. Sharon will confirm the room reservation at the PVCC for that date.
- 7) The meeting adjourned approximately 12:45pm.