

**Ark River Meeting
July 21, 2010
WATER Center
10:30-12:00**

Attendees:

Monty Munyon
Mitch Mitchell
Kay Drennen
Tonya Bronleewe
Kathy Dittmer
Becky Lewis

Rich Basore
Jessica Mounts
Libby Albers
Kim Austin
Jo Oliver

Janet Wright
Jack Brown
Mo Terrebonne
Sharon Feary
Elizabeth Skibba

Meeting Notes:

Introductions & Updates:

- Trans-Canada pipeline going across Kansas – doesn't fall under stormwater rules but does have strict water quality requirements (west of August). Big positive economic impact to Augusta
- Sg Co/KDHE working on a grant for a County Living workshop
- Environmental Sustainability Alliance with Visioneering - Goal is to implement small projects that aid in the logistics and use of green and sustainable actions. Currently watching for grant opportunities and are still in the beginning stages of development – social, environmental, business. Working on the annual Energy Conference for January 2011 – will be held at the MetroPlex.
- Working on RiverFest for June 3-11th. All activities will be moved down to and along the river. Want to do more on the river itself. Get ideas to Janet now.
- There will be a twilight float with Wally Seibel tomorrow
- Tonight there is a Pond Management workshop at the GPNC at 6 pm. There will also be a Pond and Lawn series in August. SDK Lab in Hutchinson will test pond samples for \$90 – the people collecting the sample are responsible for the integrity of the sample.
- Friends University won a WaterLink grant to help Butler County do some stream assessments
- New exhibits at the WATER Center
- GreenBiz Wichita mixer at the Fox and Hound tomorrow night
- Sg Co will be more involved in the inspection and permit process MS4
- Wichita has submitted the Development report for its WRAPS grant. The grant for the Assessment Phase will begin August 1st. The Executive Planning group will have a planning meeting for this coming Saturday.
- Update on City budget process – the management positions held by Mo and Becky will be eliminated
- City Water Quality section is trying to improve the guideline of transitioning septic served areas to sanitary sewer

WIRE Presentation (Jack Brown) – Update on progress:

- presentation given to council during a workshop
- focus area was the urban neighborhood associations
- looking at six sites within the Brownfields program in the downtown area – City volunteered these sites for a WIRE to do Phase 1 site assessments. Will discuss private property ownership with EPA for the future as well.
- Environmental Leadership Council (ELC)- 25 member – nearing the end of their term. Have a good diversity of ages and are very productive. Will be recruiting of for the next term.
- Community involvement is key

- KU Med has applied for an additional \$300k grant to move this project forward
- Top items of concern based on surveys: trash disposal, Ark River, Groundwater, Mobile Sources. Top three: Air quality, Ark River/stormwater run-off, Solid Waste/recycling
- WIRE has rec'd notification from EPA to initiate discussion on the next two years of funding
- Results:
 - Waste: GreenBiz - "Waste Wise" voluntary program on waste and recycling
 - Water: Coordinating with WRAPS and want to implement at least one rain garden – want to pay for installation and signage at the "grotto" project. Would be a good demonstration project. Looking at ways to measure effectiveness. Options for other projects at North High and the "mud flats" near the tennis courts in Riverside Park. Also finished stickering storm drains in Planeview and Hilltop using area kids.
 - Air: Idle reduction – working closely with USD259 on their busses and then taking further to parent idling their cars, signage etc. Also would like to look at the city's motor pool – fuel consumption, policy, etc.

*comment that west Wichita was not in the "focus area" of the WIRE grant and there are sever issues with the stormwater retention ponds. These areas need to have some demonstration/riparian areas that need to be implemented. Stormwater Management Advisory Board has been established. Monty will look into it.

The above described PPT will be placed on the Ark River Committee webpage on the City's website.