



Steering Committee Minutes

Time and Date of Meeting: June 28, 2021 at 1:00 PM

Next Meeting: July 26, 2021 at 1:00 PM

Attachments: Chair's Report

Call to Order: Approximately 1:00PM

Steering Committee Members Present: Caren Glotfelty, Harry Stone, Jeff Thomas, Carey Johnson, Jordan Lubetkin, Richard Harrison, Sarah Hippensteel Hall, Chuck Somerville, Kari Mackenbach, Craig Butler, Chris Lorentz, Jen Bowman, Jim Lazorchak, John King,

Absent: Jordan Lubetkin, Mekayle Houghton, Anne Quinn, Robin Peak, David Wicks, Sally Gutierrez, Marty Hettel

Advisors Present: Brandon Brummett, Hank Jarboe

Staff: Shoshannah Stone

Adoption or Modification of Agenda: Agenda approved by consensus.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from May 24 were approved by consensus.

Unfinished Business:

- Harry Stone
 - A letter was sent to Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), as announced last meeting. A follow-up communication will soon ask if they can provide leadership. If leadership cannot be provided, ORBA will reach out to Central Ohio River Business Association (CORBA) asking for recommendations for people to include in an ORBA-facilitated collaboration Basin-wide economic development event. ORBA will explore whether this plan to improve economic development and commerce can be accomplished Basin-wide.
 - Harry encouraged the Corps of Engineers to include ecosystem restoration planning in the Ohio River Basin Inspection Tour stakeholder discussions. He also recommended stakeholder who should be able to give input on ecosystem restoration.

- Harry will be in touch with the offices of four Senators (Capito, Manchin, Brown, Portman)
- A sign-on letter in support of federal funding for an Ohio River Bains restoration initiative is being sent to ORBA members soon. ORBA is asking organizations to be signatories on the letter. Shoshannah is drafting the consent form's language granting permission to use the organizations' names and logos.
 - Richard and Craig will have a meeting (sometime between July 26-28) to finalize and send out the NWF letter.
- On Facebook ORBA will post and "boost" a language individuals can copy and send to their legislators to show their support of the restoration initiative.
- Consideration is being given to legislators who should be invited to address the Summit.
- Encouraged Working Group leaders to write a brief summary of what's going on in their Working Groups for next meeting.
- Craig Butler
 - Legislators will have a call with prospective caucus members in July. A sign-on, "Dear Colleague," letter coming from the legislators themselves, will be presented and discussed during this phone call. Everything is going smoothly, the only thing left to do is set a date.
 - In communication with Ohio legislators
- Chuck Somerville and Craig Butler
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 - Criteria for request for proposals were revised based on last meetings discussion and approved by consensus as ORBA policy.
 - Adjustments were made for ORBA's public speaking criteria as discussed last meeting.
 - Must clean up contacts and addresses of members to complete this.
 - To be approved at the next Steering Committee Meeting

New Business:

- *Chairperson Report* (Harry Stone)
 - Motion to nominate Jen Bowman for Knowledge Informed Decisions Working Group. Sarah Hippensteel Hall seconded the motion, and it was approved by consensus.
- *Treasurer* (Kari Mackenbach)
 - All bills are paid. \$6,800.10 revenue was processed last month
- *Elected Officials* (Craig Butler)
 - No new report (see above)

- *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion WG* (Sally Gutierrez)
 - The WG has been meeting every other week. Currently, they are gaining an understanding of goals DEI wants to accomplish.
- *Governance* (Caren Glotfelty)
 - Subcommittee met in February
 - No new report
- *Water WG* (Richard Harrison)
 - No new report
- *Flood Risk WG* (Sarah Hippensteel Hall)
 - No new report (will meet in July)
- *Knowledge Informed Decisions WG* (Jen Bowman)
 - Beginning to look for people to match themes
 - Will be sending out a letter of support for an Ohio Environmental Education Fund grant. Ohio University is requesting \$42,000 (grant is up to \$50,000) for water testing kits to use specifically in Ohio. This will encourage “citizen science.”
 - Steering Committee approved by consensus Harry providing a letter of support for the proposal.
- *Recreation WG* (David Wicks)
 - No new report
- *Transportation WG* (Marty Hettel)
 - No new report

Adjourned at 2:00pm



Chairperson's Report

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- Drafted, and with Steering Committee revisions and consensus, provided a letter of support for ORSANCO's request for *Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) for its Drinking Water Infrastructure System*.
- Participated in discussions as part of the search for a nominee for the Knowledge Informed Decisions Working Group Lead. Jen Bowman of Ohio University was identified and agreed to serve in that role, if appointed by the Steering Committee.
- With help from Shoshannah, prepared and distributed the ORBA Update.
- Prepared and distributed a letter to Ohio River Basin legislators introducing the *Plan for the Ohio River Basin* and encouraging them to join the Ohio River Basin Congressional Caucus.
- Participated in various ORBA meetings including Chairs weekly calls, Working Group Leaders Monthly call, Diversity Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee biweekly calls, and some working group calls.
- Participated in call facilitated by Craig Butler with Keary McCarthy, the Executive Director of the Ohio Mayors Alliance, to discuss touch-points for collaboration with mayors.
- Worked on PAS risk analysis.
- Provided input to Kim Longoria with respect to topics that needed to be added to the agenda and recommendations for additional stakeholders for the Ohio River Basin Inspection Tour.
- Coordinated with NWF on a sign-on letter of support for the proposed Ohio River Basin restoration initiative.