

Minutes, 11 May 2010
Show Low Creek Watershed Enhancement Partnership
Rainbow Lake Coalition
1:00 PM, Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall

Meeting opened at 1:05 PM by Co-Chair David Newlin, LCRP RC&D Watershed.

Attendance as follows:

David Newlin – Co Chair
Al Crawford, Co-Chair (via telephone)
Leslee Wessel
Paul Horton
Jim Snitzer
Byron James
Trent Larsen
Nancy Franklin
Walter Franklin

Chair called for Approval of the 9 March Minutes (NOTE: No Meeting was held in April 2010). **Jim Snitzer moved; Leslee Wessel approved, voting was unanimous in the affirmative with the one change suggested by Byron James, ADEQ.**

It was reported that the Irrigation Company (NOTE: full and correct name of Irrigation Company is Show Low/Pinetop-Woodland Irrigation Company, herein after referred to as the "Irrigation Company") had some concerns about the use of SONAR[®] in the lake and would be holding a meeting on 12 May to discuss this matter. Al Crawford has been working with both The Shores and the Irrigation Company and Aquatech to get all parties together to discuss the following:

1. Effects of the Sonar[®] on downstream users, particularly the effects on seed germination for home gardeners.
2. Time of shut off of irrigation to the small plot gardeners

Al Crawford reported that The Shores had committed to provide a one-for-one dollar match (up to \$15,000) for the use of Sonar[®] on Rainbow Lake. A campaign for fund raising had begun (note article in White Mountain Independent from 30 April 2010 – copies available).

Al Crawford reported on alternatives for weed treatment (as discussed above):

1. Do nothing
2. Pull back to the use of Renovate 100' from the shore. This would need to go to another RFP (Request for Proposal) for budgeting.
3. Delay use of Sonar[®] until the end of September – viable weeds would still be active; Irrigation Company would have less concern.

Procedures for the use of Sonar© include two-three treatments over a four to six week period. If the funds weren't available for matching from The Shores and/or the Irrigation Company was not satisfied with the use of the chemicals now (before the end of June), then the fall-back position was use in September, which appears to be a viable alternative.

Many of the Committee members (primarily Al Crawford, Jim Snitzer, Ernie Modzelewski, Doris Morin, Jerry Ahler, Anne Staples, Jim Peterson, Ted Sykes, Ken and Eileen Thompson and others) have been discussing and pushing fund raising in the area. Many alternatives for public information are being looked at. Many suggestions were made as to whom to contact.

Other discussion items:

- Sen. Sylvia Allen has been contacted and has committed to work to get \$50,000 for weed control.
- Alternates for assignment of the issues of weed control in lakes to a specific Arizona state agency are being sought.
- Jerry Brownlow and the County Sups have been contacted, have written a nice letter of support but stated there is no funding available from Navajo County
- Discussion about the number of lots affected *in addition* to The Shores was made. Appears to be 150 lots. They should be contacted for financial support as well.
- The major issue of ownership of the lake, the water and the land around it comes up repeatedly – this is a complex equation.

The Group moved into discussion of Paul Horton's 7 November 2010 "White Paper" entitled TO BECOME A 501(C) 3...

Following decisions were made pertaining to Incorporation (much discussion was had):

- I. Boundaries of area to be covered. The area selected is the 10-digit HUC 1502000501 Show Low Creek (sub-watershed of Silver Creek Watershed). Map attached as an integral part of these minutes – see last page). **Jim Snitzer moved, Leslee seconded, voting was unanimously in the affirmative.**
- II. Name of the Group to be: *Friends of Show Low Creek Watershed*. Acronym to be FSLCW. **Jim Snitzer moved, David Newlin seconded, voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**
- III. Statement of Purpose for the organization: "To protect, restore, maintain and conserve the health sustainability and natural, agricultural, educational and recreational resources of the Show Low Creek Watershed". **Jim Snitzer moved, David Newlin seconded, and voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**
- IV. A statement for the Character of Affairs is need. Jim Snitzer volunteered to modify the information shown on Paul Horton's 7 November White Paper and
- V. has submitted the following (which needs to be discussed and approved at the next meeting):

Strategic Focus Areas:

Watershed Education and Outreach: Wise and sustainable use of water resources

Watershed management:

- Water Quality Maintenance and Enhancement
- Point and non-point pollution best management processes
- Terrestrial and Aquatic wildlife management and improvement
- Invasive species prevention, management, eradication
- Sustainable recreation and Tourism opportunities enhancement
- Ecosystem preservation and restoration

Goals:

Watershed Education and Outreach:

- Broaden elected officials and citizens' knowledge and encourage their active participation in proactively solving watershed issues.
- Enhance networking, communication, technology transfer and sharing of watershed-related information among individuals, agencies, organizations and other stakeholders.

Watershed management:

- Develop and implement a watershed management plan.
- Maintain/improve measurable water quality. Increase opportunities for conservation and multiple use of existing water resources.
- Promote diverse, stable and productive fish and wildlife habitats in the watershed. Promote protection for sensitive, threatened and endangered native species. Support initiatives to enhance aquatic, wetland, rangeland and forest health.
- Promote sustainable economic growth based on our natural resources. Enhance the economic viability within the watershed.
- Promote sustainable recreation and tourism opportunities and quality of life.

VI. Tax-Exempt Status. Extensive discussion followed on relationships between the new FSLCW and the Irrigation Company. Paul Horton discussed the need for either a Memorandum of Understanding, a Long-Term Lease or an Easement to resolve the issues of a Not-for Profit firm providing benefits to a for profit company (the Irrigation Company). He will follow up on this.

VII. Members present discussed the Board of Directors. Many different qualifications and characteristics for the types of membership and who would form the Board were discussed. No firm decisions reached.

Paul Horton suggested that a great deal of ground had been covered and that was about it for the day.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, 8 June 2010 at 1:00 PM at the Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall.

Meeting dismissed at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted;

David Newlin
Acting Secretary

