
Maumee AOC Advisory Committee

August 13, 2020 9:30am – 11:30am

Microsoft Teams Meeting

MINUTES

Virtual Attendance: Lynn Ackerson, Ashley Binion-Zuccaro, Cherie Blair, Deanna Bobak, Scott Butterworth, Jim Carter, Jenny Carter-Cornell, Regina Collins, Melanie Coulter, Ryan Darnton, Kennedy Doro, Sally Gladwell, Amanda Kovach, Matt Kovach, Chris Kline, Leah Medley, Josh Miller, Kris Patterson, Mike Pniewski, Tim Schetter, Joey Sink-Oiler, Beth Sparks-Jackson, Russ Terry

- **Welcome, Overview of Agenda:** Cherie Blair welcomed everyone and explained meeting logistics.
- **Vote: Minutes:** Joey Sink-Oiler moved and Chris Kline seconded the motion to accept the June minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Pre-Release Showing of Maumee AOC video – MAAC Exclusive (Cherie & Kris):** Cherie shared the date for the Ohio EPA Maumee AOC video premiere (Oct. 7th) and Kris explained the social media outreach that PCS will be doing to promote the video ahead of the premiere. Cherie then showed the four preview clips to the MAAC and described the logistics behind the premiere.
- **Ottawa River NRD Habitat Project (Deborah Millsap, US FWS; Cherie):** Cherie spoke on behalf of Deborah, who was unable to attend the meeting. More money was allotted to the program and Ducks Unlimited (DU) secured bids for four projects. Russ Terry (DU) gave an overview of the four projects, two of which are in the AOC, (Pickerel Creek, Moxely Marsh, Magee Marsh, and Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge) and answered questions from the group.
- **Update on Ohio DNR H2Ohio Projects in AOC (Scott Butterworth, ODNR):** Scott provided Phase 1 project updates, focusing on the eight H2Ohio projects within the AOC. Questions were asked about the dredge material being used in the Grassy Island project and about future program funding. Scott asked MAAC members to send future project ideas to him as they arise.
- **Update from BUI 3a, 6, 14a Biological subcommittee (Josh Miller, USGS)**
 - Status of TBD projects: Amanda Kovach gave a brief summary of the status of each HUC-12 that has placeholder money (i.e., TBD). HUCs include Headwaters Tenmile Creek, Fewless Creek, Upper Blue Creek, Lower Blue Creek, and Crane Creek; work will continue through the fall to identify AquaMAP projects in these HUCs.
 - Status of Maumee River projects: Josh Miller informed the group that the final Maumee River project report would be available at the end of October and would be distributed to the MAAC via email.
 - Timeline/process to prepare the MAAC for Dec. meeting vote: Josh Miller provided details regarding the December meeting AquaMAP project vote. The process will be similar to the Spring vote; MAAC voting members will have a chance to review the recommended projects and ask questions in November, ahead of the December vote.
- **US EPA Task Force Leader Report (Leah Medley, GLNPO):** Leah did not have major updates to share at this meeting but did mention that she would be attending a budget meeting with her management in a

couple of weeks. At least one focus of this meeting will be to determine the amount of money that would be distributed this year to the newly-approved AquaMAP project effort.

- **Ohio EPA AOC Coordinator Report (Cherie)**
 - Field Work: Cherie shared that while some Ohio EPA sampling is currently on-going, a lot of planned Summer 2020 sampling activities have been postponed due to COVID concerns. Ashley Binion-Zuccaro summarized the CDF sediment sampling in Otter Creek is occurring this summer and said that dredging in that area should occur in Spring 2021.
 - BUI Status: Cherie shared an overview of the BUI assessment work by various partner agencies for BUIs 1b, 4, 7, 10a, & 8b & 11. Some work was delayed or put on hold due to COVID (e.g., US FWS fish sampling) but updates on several management actions are expected this fall and will be shared at the December meeting.
 - MAP Updates: Cherie summarized the status of all MAP lists.

- **Facilitating Organization's Report (Kris Patterson, PCS)**
 - Financial update: Kris shared that as of the end of June, PCS has approximately \$50k remaining with 3 months left. The grant is underspent, largely due to outreach efforts that have been put on hold or re-worked due to the pandemic. The grant will be extended through March 2021 and outreach activities will continue with guidance from Ohio EPA.
 - Outreach activities: A number of publications have been finalized in 2020, including the 2019 annual report and set of project highlight rack cards (3 out of 4). Social media posts (>50) highlighting project/partner work have also been added to the MAAC pages, and a projects highlight page has been added to the MAAC website. An article summarizing Maumee AOC project highlights was also drafted and submitted for the Buckeye Bulletin (Ohio Water Environment Association).
 - Update on future activities: Ohio EPA Maumee AOC video promotion planning, management action project work spotlights, and DMDS updates all continue to progress.

- **MAP Spotlight:**
 - WildMAP 24-17: Penn 7 Wetland Restoration (Jenny Carter – Cornell, Vice Chair): Jenny summarized the Penn 7 site history, project planning, and current status. Her presentation also included site photos and design drawings. Per the current project schedule, construction should begin in September and should be completed by the end of the year (2020). Kris Patterson asked about the status of the mussel surveys done at the site this summer; Jenny shared that Stone Environmental did the mussel work (survey/relocation) and would be sharing the report and photos soon.

- **Next meetings for 2020**
 - December 10th 9:30 – 12:30, virtual: (IMPORTANT MTG – VOTE to recommend Aquatic MAP TBD projects and all remaining MAP lists)

- **Public Comments & Adjourn:** No further comments/questions were received from the committee. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.