

Lake Plains R C & D Council

Date: August 12, 2010 Minutes:

I. Call to Order - C. Culhane called Meeting to order at 10:05

II. Introductions - Guests C. Heintz Niagara Community College, E. Mellas Monroe Community College and F. Heinle Community & economic development consulting Erie County.

III. Quorum Determination - C. Culhane determined a quorum was met.

IV. Review and Approve Agenda –C. Culhane asked to add O. Rothfuss to new business regarding RMAP.

Motion to approve made by H. Kelsey, seconded by R. Rothfuss and carried by those present.

V. Review and Approve Minutes - **Motion to approve both the April 8th, 2010 and the June 10th, 2010 Minutes made by T Belling, seconded by R. Bell and carried by those present.**

VI. Treasurers' Report - National Assoc. RC & D Councils

- Dues re: invoice – Paid
- Guidebooks re: invoice – Outstanding

Motion to pay made by H. Kelsey, seconded by R. Rudolph and carried by those present.

Motion to approve Treasurers' report made by J. Bennett, seconded by T. Belling and carried by those present.

VII. Old Business

- C. Heintz – Talked about our next meeting at Niagara County Community College, handed out a lunch menu; the cost would be \$7.00 per person and will consist of locally grown food. He is also trying to get his local legislator to attend this meeting and notified the council of a new farmers market located in Wheatfield.
- Newsletter – Is almost completed and must be done quarterly.
- Circle of Diamonds - The news letter now qualifies for Circle of Diamonds along with any public service announcements (PSA). Must have 1 year of different forms of PSAs
 1. Policy committee
 2. Quarterly Outreach Materials –Brochure, newsletter
- Logo – C. Culhane asked to use the new logo as is after trying to shrink down more items they were just lost.

Motion to approve New Logo made by R. Bell, seconded by H. Kelsey and carried by those present.

- Council to connect with County Legislatures through liaison – C. Culhane is working on getting more legislatures to attend and has asked the council members to encourage anyone from their areas.
- Fundraising Committee Report
 1. Knitting lesson project –C. Culhane and B. Offhaus presented plans for knitting class for our first fundraising project.
- Details - Classes to be offered October, November & December.
- Attendance – Have approximately 30 people interested already
- Profits – Expenses around \$60.00 should be around \$400 to \$500.

- Place and time – 1st class to be held at _____ on 10/2/2010

Motion to approve knitting class fundraiser made by R. Rudolph, seconded by O. Rothfuss and carried by those present. K. Watt offered to donate coffee for the class.

VIII. New Business

NRCS

- Diversity Training – was completed at the NRCS office.
- Review Civil rights Policy Statement- J. Hovanesian Discussed the inspection of the policies and posters etc. NRCS passed. He discussed our need to be diversified.
- Civil rights posters

Approval and Cancellation of Project Measures

Alden CARE - F. Heinle handed out information his business plan for the Alden Center for an Agricultural Regional Economy (“Alden – CARE”) Part of the plan is for the center to be the hub for growers and producers of locally grown produce. He believes Alden’s central location and direct routes to larger locations make this type of facility a perfect fit for the Alden area. They are currently looking at site on Walden Ave. which is a former industrial park.

RMAP- O. Rothfuss discussed the grant Rural Micro-Enterprise Assistance Program (RMAP). He explained that this could be an opportunity for the Council to apply for a \$500,000.00 loan that we could partner with the IDA & EDA to set up a loan program that could service all the counties and the council could charge an administrative fee to help generate funds for the council. The loan program would be at or below market rate. All though the council is not in a position to support a loan program we could find an existing agency either local or regional and hire them to service these loans.

Motion to adopt Alden CARE as a project measure made by R. Bell, seconded by H. Kelsey and carried by those present.

Motion to adopt RMAP as project measure made by R. Bell, seconded by O. Rothfuss and carried by those present.

C. Culhane asked for Committee volunteers for RMAP – R. Bell O. Rothfuss and B. Offhaus volunteered.

Coordinator’s Report – J. Hovanesian presented his coordinator’s report that was also sent via e-mail. The GLISTEN program was discussed in more detail and E. Mellas guest speaker from Monroe Community College explained how GLISTEN worked with the three colleges involved. RIT, MCC and SUNY Brockport. This program gives students the ability to work hands on, come back to the school and help train other students, as well as attract students to participate as volunteers and receive credits. The student currently in the program will be providing the council with a full report upon completion of their assignment.

J. also informed us that our area plan has been accepted and signed but has not been received back yet.

IX. Other Business – K. Watt had question on the new attendance sheet in regards to approved and excused, how those decisions are made and who approves them? R. Bell and C. Culhane explained that if there is someone in attendance for a member as an alternate then they are excused or if we are notified that you cannot attend, would also be expectable for an excused absence. The council was in agreement that it should be one person to be notified that they will not be attending. C. Culhane said it should be the Secretary/Treasurer B. Offhaus.

X. Next meeting, Date, Time and Place – Will be held at the Niagara Community College (NCC) on October 14th, 2010 at 10:00am.

XI. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn the Meeting made H. Kelsey, seconded by R. Rudolph, and carried by those present.

Meeting Dates for 2010 – OCT 14, and DEC 9

Visit the Web Site: www.lakeplainsrcd.org

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Our vision is a prosperous diverse community that is effectively utilizing, conserving, and sharing the natural resources of the region.

Telephone: 585-589-5320 ext. 4 Fax: 585-589-7709 E-mail: John.Hovanesian@ny.usda.gov

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Carol Culhane
President

Date

Elizabeth Offhaus

Secretary/Treasurer

Date

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