

Onondaga Creek Subbasin Conceptual Revitalization Plan Working Group Meeting Minutes #15

5:30 – 7:00 PM, April 5, 2006

Betts Branch Library Meeting Room,
4862 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, New York.

Onondaga Creek Working Group: *Present:* JoAnn Cucci, Jim Daly, Teresa Doherty, Knowlton Foote, Tarki Heath, Kevin Kosakowski, Salendria Mabrey, Louise Poindexter, *Absent:*, Taylor Atseff, Bob Dougherty Chuck Goodman, Bill Guptill, Melody Holmes, Steve Kearney, Chasz. Parker, Ruth Pierce, Jeanne Shenandoah, John Snavlin & spouse;

Onondaga Creek Sub-basin Conceptual Revitalization Plan (OCR) Project Team: *Present:* Cornell University Cooperative Extension (CCE): Amy Samuels, Kelly Somerlot, Onondaga Environmental Institute (OEI): Meredith Perreault, Lindsay Speer, Ed Michalenko, SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry (ESF): Richard Smardon, Atlantic States Legal Foundation (ASLF): Sam Sage, Canopy: Lee Gechas; *Absent:* City of Syracuse: William Owens.

Additional Attendees: Clark Burdick, (OEI), Diane Carlton (NYSDEC), Kim Farrell (Farrell Consulting Inc.).

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Point of Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
1a	Administrative: Next Meeting	The next Working Group meeting will be replaced by the Onondaga Creek Community Forum on May 3 rd , 2006, held at City Hall Commons Atrium, 201 E. Washington Street in Syracuse from 5:30 – 7 PM.	Ms. Speer will inform Working Group if discounted parking is available.
1b	Administrative: Upcoming Events	Ms. Perreault presented a list of upcoming events relating to Onondaga Creek. Dr. Craig Colton from Louisiana State University wishes to host a roundtable about environmental justice issues and Onondaga Creek on April 10 th during his visit to Syracuse University.	Working Group members will contact Ms. Perreault if interested in attending.
1c	Administrative: Handouts, Available Materials, and Homework	Ms. Speer requested that Working Group members complete the homework assignment for the website. Ms. Perreault noted that the US EPA's Watershed Planning Handbook is now available to the public.	Working Group members should email Ms. Speer their submissions for the website or turn in sheets at a future meeting.
2a	Onondaga Creek Community Forums: Scheduling	A fourth forum has been scheduled for Thursday, May 25th, 7 PM, at South Presbyterian Church , 112 W. Colvin St., Syracuse.	
2b	Onondaga Creek Community Forums: Publicity	Dr. Michalenko and Dr. Smardon will be appearing on Hour CNY with George Kilpatrick and Liz Ayers on April 3 rd . Ms. Speer distributed a checklist of Working Group members' responsibilities for the community forums, as well as copies of the flyers for distribution (file copy only).	Ms. Speer will email Working Group the telephone number for Hour CNY to call in with questions. Working Group members will help distribute flyers, call locals, and otherwise help get the word out.

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2c	Onondaga Creek Community Forums: Facilitation and Format	Ms. Kim Farrell, of Farrell Consulting, Inc., described forum format and planned facilitation methods. Working Group members will sit at the tables as members of the community, but will assist by facilitating the collection and summarization of the input cards. Concerns were raised about the possibility of long meetings. Ms. Farrell reassured the Working Group that she would keep the meetings on-time. Ms. Cucci asked if we would respond to people's concerns or simply note them during the forums. Working Group members agreed that avoiding responses to concerns will allow the forums to flow smoothly and finish on time. Mr. Foote was reassured that refreshments will be served, thanks to a donation from Wegmans. OEI staff canvassed Working Group members attendance of the first forum. Ms. Farrell encouraged the Working Group to provide feedback via telephone or email to OEI on the community forums,	Ms. Farrell will note during introduction that the goal of the evening is primarily to collect the input from the public.
2c	Onondaga Creek Community Forums: Materials for input and education	Ms. Farrell described the materials used to gather input, including dot boards, index cards, and watershed maps. Ms. Cucci suggested that the dot board input be recorded on clear plastic overlay sheets, and table tents be used as a way to gather contact information from participants. Concerns were raised about allowing anonymity when giving input, and of people constraining their ideas. The group agreed to communicate that attendees should not limit their thoughts about the creek to the location of the forum, and that input would be anonymous. The Working Group suggested additional materials were suggested, including a "What happens to my input?" flyer, a slideshow of the creek, and use of the South Platte DVD to inspire the public.	Ms. Speer will change all possible media materials to "doors open at 6:30 pm" to allow for time to interact with materials prior to the start of the forum. Ms. Perreault will create the "what happens to my input?" handout. Ms. Speer will assemble a slideshow of the creek, to play before the forum begins.
3	Revisiting the planning/visioning process	Dr. Smardon briefly reviewed the current status of the planning process with the Working Group, illustrated with a PowerPoint slide (file copy only).	

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsay Speer,
Recording Secretary of the Onondaga Creek Working Group