



Working together, restoring the river

ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

Meeting Summary

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 8, 2005 at 1:30 P.M.

DPW Offices, City of Livonia, Michigan

Allen Park
 Auburn Hills
 Beverly Hills
 Bingham Farms
 Birmingham
 Bloomfield Hills
 Bloomfield Township
 Canton Township
 Commerce Township
 Dearborn
 Dearborn Heights
 Farmington
 Farmington Hills
 Garden City
 Inkster
 Lathrup Village
 Livonia
 Melvindale
 Northville
 Northville Township
 Novi
 Plymouth
 Plymouth Township
 Pontiac
 Redford Township
 Rochester Hills
 Romulus
 Southfield
 Superior Township
 Troy
 Van Buren Township
 Walled Lake
 Wayne
 Wayne County
 West Bloomfield Twp.
 Westland
 Wixom
 Ypsilanti Township

1. **Welcome** - Robert Beckley of Livonia, Alliance of Rouge Communities Chair welcomed the Committee to Livonia.
2. **Roll Call** – Chair Beckley took roll call at the meeting. The following table indicates attendees at the meeting on December 8, 2005.

*Alliance of Rouge Communities
 Executive Committee Meeting Attendees
 March, 22 2006*

Officers		
Chair	Robert Beckley	Livonia
Vice-Chair	Wayne Domine	Bloomfield Twp.
Treasurer	Kurt Giberson	Dearborn
Past Vice-Chair	Jim Anulewicz	Plymouth Township
Counties		
Washtenaw Co. - Alt.	Michelle Bononi	WCDC
Wayne Co. - Rep.	Kurt Heise	WCDOE
Wayne Co. - Alt.	Kelly Cave	WCDOE
SWAGs		
Main 1 & 2 – Rep.	Brandy Bakita	Southfield
Main 1 & 2 - Alt.	Jennifer Lawson	Troy
Upper - Rep.	Tom Biasell	Farmington Hills
Middle 1 – Rep.	Aaron Staup	Novi
Middle 1 – Alt.	Jill Rickard	Northville Township
Lower 1 - Rep.	Dan Swallow	Van Buren Township
Lower 2 - Rep.	Jack Barnes	Garden City
Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, and Representatives		
Organizational Committee Co-Chair	Dave Payne	Bloomfield Township
Technical Committee Co-Chair	Gary Zorza	Farmington Hills
Organizational & Finance Committee	Tim Faas	Canton Township
Staff Support		
Staff Support	Jack Bails	RPO
Staff Support	Colleen Hughes	RPO
Others		
	Jim Murray	
	Ralph Williams	

3. Minutes of August 26, 2005, Executive Committee Meeting

After soliciting comments on the August 26, 2005 meeting summary and receiving none, a vote to accept the minutes as prepared passed unanimously.

4. Additions or Changes to Draft Agenda

Jennifer Lawson, Troy, requested the addition of an agenda item to present comments from Friends of the Rouge. The item was added under the Main 1-2 SWMA report.

Tom Biasell, Farmington Hills, requested clarification as to the official status of the Alliance of Rouge Communities. A review of the bylaws indicated that the Alliance was automatically created once twenty eligible communities' governing bodies approved the bylaws and therefore this meeting represented the first official meeting of the Alliance.

5. Chair Communications (Robert Beckley)

Chair Beckley summarized the November 21, 2005 meeting with the MDEQ concerning SWPPI updates indicating that the MDEQ generally approved of the IDEP and PEP template concept, but that they had concerns with the level of detail with reporting. As a follow up to the meeting, detailed tables of subwatershed management plan goals and actions were provided to MDEQ such that they might offer suggestions to more effective reporting methods. MDEQ stated that they would submit formal comments to the SWPPI update at a later date.

6. Treasurers Report (Kurt Giberson)

- a. *Member Assessment Status Report* - Treasurer Giberson presented a table reporting the status of 2005 assessments showing 99.9% paid.
- b. *Expenditures Report* – a financial status report of expenditures to date for 2005 activities was presented. Work is proceeding as planned.
- c. *Fiduciary Services Agreement for 2006* – a recommendation was made to extend the fiduciary services agreement with Wayne County through 2006. An updated agreement was distributed for review. The ARC voted to approve the amended fiduciary services agreement and to authorize Chair Beckley to sign on behalf of the Alliance.

7. Standing Committee Reports (Robert Beckley)

- a. Finance Committee (Kurt Giberson)
 - i. *2005 Budget Amendment Requests*
Item 1: Jennifer Lawson of Troy presented an amendment to the Public Involvement and Education OSDS workshop task (PIE4.4). The PIE committee had planned three workshops in 2005, but due to staff changes with the Michigan State University Extension Services the PIE committee requests

postponing the workshops until 2006 and carrying over \$900 of remaining funds.

Item 2: The PIE committee requests transferring \$4,200 originally approved for the banners printing task (PIE4.6) to the printing PIE materials task (PIE4.5). Printing of materials would include a detention pond maintenance manual, fats/oil/grease brochure, and fertilizer tip cards.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to recommend the two 2005 PIE budget amendments to the full Alliance for authorization.

ii. 2006 Budget Recommendations

Treasurer Giberson presented the Finance Committee's recommended 2006 budget developed through the review of budget requests submitted by the three standing committees. The budget proposal included reductions from that requested in order to present a balanced budget based on funds available through community assessments using current Alliance membership. With several communities expected to join prior to the next Full Alliance meeting, the Finance Committee recommended that the budget reductions would be replenished to the amount requested if funds became available through new membership prior to a vote of the Full Alliance. The Finance Committee offered a recommendation as to the priority of replenished budget line items, should funds become available to support some but not all activities.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to recommend the proposed budget to the Full Alliance with automatic increases to the original standing committee requested amounts using the priority ranking offered by the Finance Committee.

b. Organization Committee (Kurt Heise/Dave Payne)

i. Status of ARC Insurance

The Organizational Committee (OC) reported that continued research into the type of ARC insurance needed and additional estimates indicated that the policy cost would be much less than the originally estimated \$10,000.

ii. Recommendation on Associate Membership

The OC presented a proposed methodology for assessing Associate members based on a weighting of watershed land area. This methodology would apply to any associate member including the Wayne County Airport Authority seeking membership. The Executive Committee approved the methodology for presentation to the Full Alliance along with a

proposal to invite the Wayne County Airport Authority as an Associate member.

The OC suggested that this methodology could also serve as a basis for nested communities, but would address their role, dues and involvement scenario individually.

The OC also noted that they were seeking additional members to serve on the OC.

c. PIE (Public Involvement and Education) Committee (Jennifer E Lawson, Chair)

i. *Status Report*

Jennifer Lawson, Troy, reported on the success of a recent Public Education Workshop that had 75 people in attendance, including some from outside the watershed looking for guidance. She also indicated that the PIE Committee is looking for a storage room approximately 100 square feet in size to store PIE materials. Northville offered to check to see if they have some space available.

It was also indicated that the status of the FOTR involvement in the ARC would be revisited at a PIE/FOTR meeting scheduled for January 12th in Livonia at 1:30 P.M.

d. Technical Committee (Gary Zorza, Vice Chair)

i. *Reduced Sampling Plan*

Gary Zorza, Farmington Hills reported that the Technical Committee met last on November 1, 2005 to discuss a request from the Finance Committee to submit budget requests for 2006. The Technical Committee recommended a significantly reduced program including a reduction in 6 water quality monitoring locations, and 4 stream gages.

8. Reports from SWAGS (Comments, Concerns, and/or Recommendations)

- a. Main 1 & 2 - Brandy Bakita (Southfield) reported that the Main 1-2 SWAG had not met since August 26, 2005, but had a meeting scheduled for next month. She also noted that FOTR is celebrating their 20th year of Rouge Rescue and is looking for a letter of support from the ARC. Jack Bails offered to work with Chair, Bob Beckley to draft a letter for FOTR noting that if they could wait until January the Full Alliance could endorse it.
- b. Main 3 & 4 –The last scheduled meeting was canceled. Nothing further to report.
- c. Upper – Nothing to report
- d. Middle 1 - Nothing to report
- e. Middle 3 – Dearborn Heights completed their CSO project on time connecting three additional areas to the existing basin.

f. Lower 1 - Nothing to report

g. Lower 2 - Nothing to report

9. Report from WCDOE

a. Rouge Project Update (Kelly Cave)

- *Task Status:* Kelly Cave, Wayne County, reported on the ARC work being performed by the Rouge Program Office indicating that a task status report was included in the handout and that work is proceeding as planned.

- *Frozen Funds:* Ms. Cave also reported progress on the release of funds frozen by USEPA. A call was received from Senator Levin's office indicating that he was going to issue a strongly worded letter to EPA to release the remaining funds. Round VII grants will be reviewed if there is indication that funds will be released.

- *Grant 6 Final Report* – the report was completed, published, and will be distributed to the ARC.

- *Rouge 2005* was held October 29th at UofM Dearborn including presentations on projects and improvements in ecosystem health. The Executive Committee recommended the presentation or an abbreviated version be given at the next Full Alliance meeting

10. Alliance Transition (Robert Beckley)

Chair Beckley highlighted some goals for the new Alliance of Rouge Communities including pursuing a universal watershed wide permit and expanding membership through associate members.

11. Summary of Actions Full Assembly (Robert Beckley)

- Process Fiduciary Services Agreement Amendment
- Recommend 2005 budget amendments to Full Alliance.
- Recommend proposed 2006 budget to Full Alliance.
- Refine Insurance recommendation for Full Alliance.
- Recommend assessment of dues methodology for Associate members to Full Alliance and invitation to Wayne County Airport Authority.
- Draft letter of support for FOTR

12. Next Meeting Assembly/Alliance

a. Full Alliance Meeting Date/Time and Place
January 6, 2006, 1:30 pm Southfield Public Library

Adjourn