



Working together, restoring the river

James W. Ridgway, P.E.  
Executive Director

**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY  
ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES**

**May 5, 2009, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Lloyd A. Stage Environmental Interpretive Center, Troy**

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

**1. Welcome**

Gary Mekjian chaired the meeting in T. Faas' absence.

- a. Roll Call /Determination of Quorum** - Roll call was taken. The 24 members listed below were in attendance, which was sufficient for a quorum.

ARC Member	Attended Y/N	ARC Member	Attended Y/N
Allen Park	N	Oak Park	N
Auburn Hills	Y	Orchard Lake	N
Beverly Hills	Y	Plymouth	N
Bingham Farms	Y	Plymouth Twp.	Y
Birmingham	Y	Pontiac	Y
Bloomfield Hills	N	Redford Twp.	Y
Bloomfield Twp.	Y	Rochester Hills	Y
Canton Twp.	N	Romulus	N
Commerce Twp.	N	Southfield	Y
Dearborn	N	Superior Twp.	N
Dearborn Heights	N	Troy	Y
Farmington	Y	Van Buren Twp.	N
Farmington Hills	Y	Walled Lake	Y
Franklin	N	Washtenaw County	Y
Garden City	Y	Wayne	Y
Inkster	Y	Wayne County	Y
Lathrup Village	Y	Wayne County Airport Authority	N
Livonia	Y	West Bloomfield Twp.	Y
Melvindale	N	Westland	Y
Northville	N	Wixom	N
Northville Twp.	Y	Ypsilanti Twp.	N
Novi	N		
Oakland County	N		

After roll call all guests in attendance introduced themselves (see attached sign-in sheet).

**b. Approval of December 16, 2008 Meeting Summary**

A motion was made by Jack Barnes, Garden City, to approve the December 16, 2008, meeting summary. It was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, and passed unanimously.

**c. Additions or changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda**

There were no additions or changes made to the draft meeting agenda.

## **2. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report**

### **a. 2008 Budget Status Report**

Jennifer Lawson, Treasurer, reviewed the information that was given on the ARC invoice payments and budget status.

### **b. 501(c)(3) Application**

J. Lawson informed members that the law firm Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP has finished the preparation of the ARC's 501(c)(3) application. The lawyer has requested a change to the ARC Bylaws to meet the requirements of the non-profit designation. Michelle Bononi, Washtenaw County, questioned the change to Article VII regarding the dissolution of the ARC. There was some discussion about the possibility of assets being distributed back to the local government in the same percentages that community's dues were paid in at. ARC staff will discuss this with Honigman Miller. A motion was made by Marshall Labadie, West Bloomfield Twp., to approve the revised bylaws. It was seconded by Kurt Heise, Wayne County, and passed unanimously.

### **c. Friends of the Rouge Funding Request**

Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) Board President, Heidi McKenzie and Vice President Mike Darga discussed FOTR's letter requesting funding support from the ARC in the amount of \$38,600 for fiscal year 2008-2009 and \$38,600 for 2009/2010. FOTR have eliminated a full-time position, are doing more fundraising events and are streamlining the programs in an effort to lower their costs. However, the economic downturn and the loss of contributions from longstanding contributors, such as the auto companies, has prompted the need for assistance from the ARC. H. McKenzie discussed FOTR's programs such as streambank stabilization, the Rouge Education Project and the Frog and Toad survey that helps ARC communities fulfill with the public education requirements of the storm water permit. M. Darga informed the ARC that the FOTR total budget is \$448,000 and they are asking for less than 10% of that from the ARC. FOTR has reduced their budget by \$107,000 from last year. A motion was made by Kathryn Hagaman, Bingham Farms, to approve funding for FOTR in the amount of \$38,600 for fiscal year 2009 with the request that the Finance Committee include additional funding under the ARC budget planning process for 2010. It was seconded by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, and passed unanimously.

### **d. Detroit Public Television MiEARTH Presentation**

Tracy Rivard from Detroit Public Television (DPT) gave a brief presentation about the multi-media platform [www.MiEARTH.org](http://www.MiEARTH.org) which is similar to the very popular MiVOTE that was utilized during the recent presidential election. DPT is requesting that the ARC sponsor the Green Community section of the website. S. Keenan asked how the program would benefit the ARC. T. Rivard said sponsorship would help publicize the ARC's activities through the MiEARTH website, targeted radio and television coverage and through Signal magazine, a public television quarterly publication that goes to 60,000 subscribers. DPT is requesting funding for three years of programming in the amount of \$25,000 annually. The total budget is for the MiEarth program is \$380,000 per year. G. Mekjian, Southfield, asked if other public television stations were doing something similar and if they were going expand to those areas. T. Rivard said that at this time this type of programming is exclusive to DPT. DEQ representatives at the meeting confirmed that this type of outlet would be considered for the PI portion of the permit.

### **e. 2009 Budget Amendments**

#### **i. PIE Budget Amendments 1 and 2**

J. Lawson reviewed PIE Amendment 1 to reallocate budget (\$12,500) within the Public Education Materials (PIE Task 3). The funds would be used for a partial ARC sponsorship of MiEARTH. A motion was made by M. Labadie, West Bloomfield Twp., to approve PIE Budget Amendment 1. It was seconded by Kevin Buford, Westland, and passed unanimously. The ARC requested that the Finance Committee include an additional \$12,500 (to total \$25,000 for one year) to support DPT's MiEARTH in the ARC 2010 budget planning process.

J. Lawson reviewed PIE Amendment 2 to reallocate Wayne County budget from PIE3 (Public Education materials) to PIE1 (Green Infrastructure Campaign). The budget transfer would provide much needed support from Wayne County on PIE 1. A motion was made by K. Hagaman, Bingham Farms, to approve PIE Budget Amendment 2. It was seconded by Paul Smith, Farmington, and passed unanimously.

ii. TC Budget Amendment 1 and 2

Gary Zorza, Farmington Hills, and Technical Committee Chair, reviewed TC Amendment 1 for Executive Director oversight of the TC3 Green Infrastructure and Impervious Cover Mapping contract. Funding for this effort is already available in the Technical Committee's current budget for this line item. A motion was made by Jack Barnes, Garden City, to approve TC Budget Amendment 1. It was seconded by J. Mueller, Lathrup Village, and passed unanimously.

G. Zorza reviewed TC Amendment 2 for Executive Director Services for TC4 pursuing grant opportunities. During 2009, the Executive Director staff has submitted two grant applications: the first was a CMI grant for water quality monitoring to support IDEP efforts, and the second was a NOAA grant for habitat improvements at Evans Creek Wetlands Treatment, Danvers Pond, and Green Corridors (Wayne County Parks and Beechwood Park in Southfield). The budget for the CMI grant request was \$37,180 (grant) plus \$12,500 in matching funds. The budget for the NOAA grant was \$2,526,812 with no matching funds required. The grant preparations have expended the budget for this line item. The Executive Director requested an additional \$8,350 in funding to cover the cost of preparing two to four additional grant applications in 2009. A motion was made by K. Buford, Westland, to approve TC Budget Amendment 2. It was seconded by Meghan Bonfiglio, Bloomfield Twp., and passed unanimously.

**3. Executive Director Report** (Gary Mekjian for Jim Ridgway, Executive Director)

**a. Rouge Watershed Management Plan Update**

G. Mekjian asked if MDEQ representatives would like to make a statement on the expected comments on the draft Watershed Management Plan. MDEQ staff stated that they continue to review the document and hope to get it to ARC staff soon. They would like to set up a meeting with ARC staff to review the comments. Their general comments are the need for a more detailed conclusion. Considering all the models in the document they feel there is a need for a more detailed interpretation of what is most important to the ARC.

**b. 2008 Executive Director Annual Report**

G. Mekjian informed the Full Alliance that the 2008 Executive Director Annual Report was included in the meeting materials for their information.

**4. Rouge Program Office Report (K. Heise)**

Nothing to report at this time.

**5. Standing Committee Reports**

**a. Organization Committee (K. Heise/D. Payne, Co-chairs)**

**i. Executive Committee Conflict of Interest Policy**

K. Heise stated that the Organizational Committee reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy prepared by the lawyer as a requirement for the 501(c)(3) application via email and the Executive Committee approved it at the April 22 Executive Committee meeting. The committee had no changes and thought it was very thorough. A motion was made by Michelle Bononi, Washtenaw County, to adopt the Executive Committee Conflict of Interest Policy. It was seconded by P. Smith, Farmington, and passed unanimously.

**b. PIE Committee (Brandy Siedlaczek, Chair)**

Brandy Siedlaczek reported that the PIE Committee is planning two septic system workshops on May 13 in Southfield and May 20 in Livonia. The PIE Committee is moving forward on the design of the 13 green infrastructure projects and on updating the Detention Pond Maintenance Manual for July. They will be hosting three green infrastructure workshops in August for residents along with a self-guided tour of green infrastructure projects around the watershed.

**c. Technical Committee (Gary Zorza, Vice Chair)**

**i. Contract Approval Procedure**

G. Zorza stated that during the contract preparation with the Land Cover RFP the Technical Committee saw a need for a Contract Approval Procedure for contracts over \$20,000. The proposed procedure requires the chair of the committee overseeing the contract to recommend the contract to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will then authorize the Executive Director staff to prepare the contract. The contract will go to a review committee. After the contract is reviewed it will then go back to the Executive Director staff and ARC chair. A motion was made by M. Bononi, Washtenaw County, to adopt the Contract Approval Procedure. It was seconded by K. Buford, Westland, and passed unanimously.

**ii. Land Cover RFP/Michigan Tech Research Institute**

G. Zorza reported that two firms, Sanborn and Michigan Tech Research Institute were invited to an interview and the committee chose Michigan Tech Research Institute. The review committee agreed to just acquire the level 1 land cover classifications (i.e. impervious, woody, non-woody vegetation, barren, water) and forego the level 2 classifications (i.e. further classification of the woody and non-woody vegetation classifications) at this time. This decision was based on cost and the determination that there would be limited benefits gained from the level 2 classifications. The interviews took place on April 3, 2009 at Farmington Hills. The interviews gave the review committee a better understanding of each candidate's project understanding, capabilities, deliverables and communication strategy. There was unanimous consensus from the review committee members participating in the interview that both contractors have the capability to provide a comparable land cover inventory. The review committee recognized that Sanborn has extensive knowledge in land cover inventory, specifically in Southeast Michigan. However, it was the opinion of the review committee that they had minimal value added services for the price difference (\$72,121 vs. MTRI's \$34,260). Based on a recommendation by the Technical Committee, the Executive Committee approved

that Michigan Tech Research Institute be awarded the ARC Land Cover Inventory Contract in the amount of \$34,260. This price includes acquisition of the land cover inventory classes for non-ARC member communities (88 SQ. MI.) in the Rouge Watershed at a cost of \$2,008. ARC member communities with area beyond the Rouge River Watershed will be given the option in advance of the work to acquire the land cover inventory classes for the remainder of their land area at a price of \$15 per square mile which is recommended to be paid to the ARC by a date to be established by the Executive Director. Due to the \$38,000 cost differential between MTRI and the second highest ranked bidder (Sanborn), the Technical Committee also recommended that a contract payment schedule be set up to ensure that MTRI provides the level of detail specified in the RFP.

G. Zorza asked if Wayne County's Corporation Counsel could review standard contracts that arise between the ARC and other parties. K. Heise, Wayne County, stated that, yes, Wayne County could provide review of the contracts for the ARC.

**d. Grants Committee** (Gary Mekjian for Phil Sanzica, Chair)

G. Mekjian stated that a copy of the Project Summary for the NOAA Grant submittal was included in the meeting handout for review.

**6. SEMCOG Regional Watershed Efforts**

Chuck Hersey discussed the SEMCOG handout which listed the issues important to the ARC communities and support activities that could be performed by SEMCOG. These include Phase II Permit activities, LID, storm water activities, supporting storm water utility legislation and engaging state/federal initiatives. Amy Mangus discussed the upcoming Partners for Clean Water meeting and email list. A. Mangus discussed some potential SEMCOG programs regarding the Phase II Permit. She stated that they are hoping to meet with MDEQ to discuss the alternative approaches and audits with MDEQ. She said SEMCOG hopes to help develop alternative approaches for the permit and provide pre-audit assistance to communities. She said SEMCOG can provide SWPPI review, municipal training material, and detention pond maintenance inspections. SEMCOG can meet with transportation agencies and boards to provide additional information about LID and provide more one-on-one information to member communities.

**7. Public Comment**

Sally Petrella, FOTR, discussed the Spring Bug Hunt. She said FOTR was using flip cameras to video tape activities for MiEARTH. She informed the ARC that the FOTR bug hunt had 22 sites and that there are five videos on MiEARTH from the recent bug hunts. S. Petrella distributed Rouge Rescue site maps. She invited the ARC to support FOTR at Andiamo's Restaurant from 6-9 p.m. on June 12. Part of the proceeds will go to FOTR.

Lillian Dean passed out information regarding the Michigan Green Industries Association and a rain barrel sale.

**8. Summary of Actions of Full Alliance** (Chris O'Meara, ARC staff)

- The December 16, 2008 meeting summary was approved.
- The revised ARC Bylaws were accepted.
- Funding for FOTR in the amount of \$38,600 for fiscal year 2009 was approved with the request that the Finance Committee include additional funding under the ARC budget planning process for 2010.

- The ARC requested that the Finance Committee include an additional \$12,500 (to total \$25,000 for one year) to support DPT's MiEARTH in the ARC 2010 budget planning process.
- PIE Budget Amendment 1 was approved.
- PIE Budget Amendment 2 was approved.
- TC Budget Amendment 1 was approved.
- TC Budget Amendment 2 was approved.
- The Executive Committee Conflict of Interest Policy was adopted.
- The Contract Approval Procedure was adopted.

**9. Upcoming Meeting Schedule (C. O'Meara)**

- Lower 1/Middle 1 SWAG, May 19, 2009 9:30 a.m., Northville Twp. Hall Training Room, 44405 Six Mile Rd.
- Middle 3/Lower 2 and Main 3-4 SWAG, May 19, 2009, 1:30 p.m., Livonia DPW office, 12973 Farmington Rd.
- Main 1-2/Upper SWAG, May 20, 2009, 1:30 p.m., Longacre House, Farmington Hills
- Finance Committee, 1:30 p.m. June 4, 2009, Location to be determined
- PIE Committee Meeting, noon, July 9, 2009, Beverly Hills (Howard Knorr's house)

**10. Adjourn**

The motion was made by K. Buford, Westland, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dennis Dembiec, Birmingham, and passed unanimously.

# Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List

Meeting Date: 5/5/09

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
	Allen Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Anulewicz James	Plymouth Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ball Zachare	ECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EB BAM
Barnes Jack	Garden City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Barrett Robert	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Belair Bob	Canton Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Beyer Lori	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Biasell Thomas	Farmington Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bobrin Janis	Washtenaw County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bonfiglio Meghan	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bononi Michelle	Washtenaw County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MJK
Bremer Christine	Lathrup Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Buford Kevin	Westland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Buiten Mike	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cave Kelly	Wayne County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Colaianne Joe	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Coyer Bryan	Village of Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cravens Jay	Bloomfield Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cullen Jim	Wayne County Airport Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cureton Loyd	Walled Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Davis Paul	Rochester Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
DeMaria Annette	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dombrowski Tony	Pontiac	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Domine Wayne	Bloomfield Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
El-Gharib Ramzi	Wayne	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Faas Tim	Canton Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 5/5/09

<i>Name</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Fadoir Ron	OCDC	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fannon Richard	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fellrath Patrick	Plymouth Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DF
Franzil Jack	Dearborn Heights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Freeman H. William	Bingham Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gallogly James	Northville	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Garrison Jacy	OCDC	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski Laura	Birmingham	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski Laura	Bloomfield Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gruzowski Laura	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Guest Connie	Commerce Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gushman Kevin	Farmington	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hagaman Kathryn	Bingham Farms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KAGH
Harvey Dave	Garden City	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hayes Rob	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Heise Kurt	Wayne County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Howell Michael	Wixom	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Janus Demetria	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Johnson Ron	Inkster	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Keenan Shawn	Auburn Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Keough Shawn	Plymouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Knepper Todd	Van Buren Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kramarz Kristina	Dearborn Heights	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kuehn Deborah	Superior Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Labadie Marshall	West Bloomfield Twp.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Lakhani Muzaffar	Inkster	<input type="checkbox"/>	
LaManes Paul	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 5/5/09

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
Lawson Jennifer	Troy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Maillard Kevin	Livonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCallum Gerry	Village of Orchard Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McCulloch John	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
McGill Lisa	Walled Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>JA</i>
Mekjian Gary	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Melchert Ron	Auburn Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Meszler Tom	Village of Beverly Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Moore Roger	Rochester Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>RM</i> <i>JM</i>
Mueller Jeff	Lathrup Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Murray Jim	Dearborn	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nicholson David	Ypsilanti Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<del>DiMauro</del> <i>DEMOISE</i> Paul <i>DEWIS</i>	Birmingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Overholt Green Janet	Orchard Lake Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pulker Eileen	Village of Franklin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Puuri Steve	Washtenaw County Road Commis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rickard Jill	Northville Township	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ridgway Jim	ECT	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rohraff Donald	Westland	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sanzica Phil	Oakland County	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schneck Allen	Pontiac	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schueller Derrick	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Selmi John	Redford Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Siedlaczek Brandy	Southfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>PS</i>
Sincock Paul	Plymouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Smith Paul	Farmington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>PES</i>
Staup Aaron	Novi	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Meeting Date: 5/5/09

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
Sullivan Patrick	Northville	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Swallow Dan	Van Buren Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
VanAartsen Carl	Redford Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vandette Steven	Troy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wagoner Bryan	Wayne County Airport Authority*	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Weaver Don	Northville Township	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wilson Jennifer	Oak Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wilson Tom	Romulus	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Witte Eric	Melvindale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zorza Gary	Farmington Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GRZ
Zoumbaris Jim	Livonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JMZ
La Rose Michelle	Farmington/Westland/ Romulus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ML
Malone Sue	BCDC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SM
Mondora Karen	OHM rep. Farmington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KM
Petrella, Sally	Friends of The Remy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SP
Tom MacDonalcl	City of Wayne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JM
Ralph Williams	CITIZED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Lillian Dean LFDean@aol.com	SOCWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	please add me to the email list
Chy Myers	Searcy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Kelley Kuyll	Searcy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Chuck Henry	Searcy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
John Rickard	N. Twp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	please add
Dima El-Gamal	Stantec	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	