

SWEET

Meeting Minutes

Monday October 28, 2024

After a brief check-in meeting began at 10:02am

In attendance: Jacob Trusty (MC Parks and Recreation), Kriste Lindberg (CBU), Adam Rickert (MCHD-SP) Trohn Enright-Randolph (MC Surveyors Office), Heidi Shoemaker (City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation), Rachel Sargent (City of Bloomington Planning), Maggie Sullivan (Friends of Lake Monroe), Elisa Pokral (Waste Reduction District), Michael Dorsett (Indiana University MS4).

BIG COLLABORATION ITEMS

- No big collaboration items discussed

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

- Friends of Lake Monroe is hosting two field days in November:
 - November 14 in Brown County showcasing livestock practices.
<https://www.friendsoflakemonroe.org/events- page/got-erosion-get-a-huap-livestock-field-day>
 - November 21 in Jackson County showcasing cover crops with drones.
<https://www.friendsoflakemonroe.org/events-page/drone-cover-crop-field-day>
- Environmental Education Association of Indiana (EEAI) is hosting their annual conference, November 8-10 in Indianapolis.
<https://eeai.org/2024-Registration>
- Weed Wrangles are happening monthly at various locations around Bloomington,
https://www.bloomingtonvolunteernetwork.org/need/detail/?need_id=815567

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION

- Heidi reported that the last Nature Days for 2024 will be 10/29/2024. Nature Days will resume in 2025 with Leonard Springs on April 1st and April 8th and Griffy Lake on April 3rd and April 10th.
- Weed Wrangles scheduled for the remainder of 2024 include 11/2 and 12/7, both at Lower Cascades Park, see further info in **Upcoming Conference and Events** section.
- Earth Day planning starts on 10/29/2024 with an Earth Week creek clean up scheduled for April 20, 2025 at 1 pm.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON UTILITIES

- CBU has been working with MCCSC on the Maker Challenge.
- Adopt A Drain will be featured this week with the Bloomington Volunteer Network.
- About a dozen participants were recently trained on Hoosier Riverwatch in the last couple of weeks.
- Clean up occurred at CBU's Adopt A Stream site near the former Winston Thomas WWTP.
- Accepted into IDEM's Clean Communities Program, CBU is putting together a team of people for this endeavor.

- Environmental Education Association of Indiana has a new Climate and Health related workshop on the Friday of the upcoming conference.
- STEAM night (MCCSC) is coming up on November 12, 2024 at The Academy of Science & Entrepreneurship, 444 S Patterson Drive, Bloomington.
- Started with E. coli sampling as part of water quality monitoring program.

MONROE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

- Weed Wrangle at Will Detmer Park (WDP) was recently completed.
- Working with MC Soil and Water at WDP to develop a test plot with expansion of ground beds for the community garden.
- Jacob has currently been working in area schools.
- MC Parks and Recreation is hosting an astronomy event at Flatwoods Park on Saturday November 2nd in conjunction with the IU Astronomy Department.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PLANNING

- Rachel reported that she has been organizing student field trips for O’Neil Leadership Fellows. 1 undergrad and about 10 grad students from the O’Neil School are working at Bloomington City Hall. Rachel has been coordinating field trips to show different municipal activities. Looking for municipal field trip locations, both City and County for the spring semester (Jan through April) 2025. The Leadership Fellows have toured Griffy Lake with tours of the water treatment plant and WWTP planned for later in 2024.
- Environmental Commission (EC) has two vacancies on it. Anybody that resides within City of Bloomington limits and is interested in getting involved, Planning is currently accepting applications. EC has a water quality working group as well.

MONROE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

- Soil and Water along with the MC Highway Department is hosting a Fall and Winter Stormwater Workshop on 10/29/2024 (5:30pm) at the Southwest branch library, 890 W Gordon Pike, Bloomington.

MONROE COUNTY WASTE REDUCTION DISTRICT

- Over the last month, Elisa has attended several events to promote the Waste Reduction District and water quality information.
- Environmental Education Association of Indiana (EEAI) is hosting their annual conference, November 8-10 in Indianapolis, see ***Upcoming Events and Conferences*** section.
- Waste Reduction District will offer discounted online rain barrel and compost bin sales in January 2025 with delivery in Spring 2025 in the week after Earth Day.

MONROE COUNTY HIGHWAY STORMWATER PROGRAM

- Soil and Water along with the MC Highway Department is hosting a Fall and Winter Stormwater Workshop on 10/29/2024 (5:30pm) at the Southwest branch library, 890 W Gordon Pike, Bloomington. Topics include managing leaves near storm inlets, composting, stormwater grant/technical assistance through MC Soil and Water as well as information on MC Highway's brine system for highway de-icing.
- Save the Date flyer will be distributed soon for the next **Contractors Workshop**, January 22, 2025 at Ivy Tech Bloomington.

MONROE COUNTY SURVEYOR

- Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) is holding its 2025 National Conference in New Orleans, May 18-22nd.
- November 7, 2024, Indiana Water Resource Association is having its 43rd Annual Symposium in Plainfield Indiana.
- CDO update: public hearings have been completed, MC Planning has compiled the feedback from the in-person comments and anyone that completed the online survey. Completed the zoning map amendment portions through the administrative meetings we have held.
- With the CDO, Trohn has focused on making sure there is understanding and transparency when different ordinances that may overlap similar aspects of land development/use and to use compliant infrastructure for the type of land use approved.

FRIENDS OF LAKE MONROE

- Maggie reported FLM just had a good annual celebration and just wrapped up Lake Monroe 60th anniversary activities.
- Two field days are scheduled for November, see **Upcoming Events and Conferences** section.
- FLM recently received a grant extension, Maggie's position is funded through November 2025. An application was submitted to receive 3 years of additional funding, however FLM has not heard back yet.

TOWN OF ELLETTSVILLE

- No report.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

- Currently working on outfall inspections.

PUBLIC INPUT

- No public input.

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business, meeting adjourned at about 10:28am

NEXT MEETING

November 25, 2024 at 10:00am.