

The Ulao Creek Partnership mission is to form an alliance of concerned citizens, landowners, and public and private organizations to protect and improve the water quality and natural habitats in the Ulao Creek watershed.



P. O. Box 994 Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074

# Ulao Creek Partnership Meeting Minutes January 22, 2013 5:30 p.m. Room 218 Ozaukee County Administration Building

Present: August Hoppe, Mike Griser, Andy Holschbach, Steve Wilkinson, Andrew Struck, Glenn Miller, Kurt, Dave Schwengel, Paul Helms, Marjie Tomter

**PRESIDENT**

August Hoppe  
Landowner

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Mike Grisar  
We Energies

**SECRETARY**

Debra Davis  
Concerned Citizen

**TREASURER**

Karin Manley  
Landowner

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Dale Buser  
Consulting Hydrologist, PE, PH

Kurt Gruetzmacher  
Landowner

Paul Helms  
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Andy Holschbach  
Ozaukee County Land  
& Water Management

Tom Latzl  
Landowner

David A. Schwengel  
Concerned Citizen

Andrew Struck  
Ozaukee County  
Planning & Parks

Marjie Tomter  
Landowner

Steve Wilkinson  
Landowner

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY MEMBERS**

Noel Cutright  
We Energies

Shawn Graff  
Oz/Wash Land Trust, Inc.

Ginny Plumeau  
BH Environmental

William Wawrzyn  
DNR

1. No official treasurer's report. August relayed that there is about \$6400.00 at this time. Biggest expense of 2012 was \$1300 for the tree planting in May and membership drive tree give-away at \$3-400 and our donation to Tim's memorial fund.
2. The Fall Buckthorn Removal Project went well at Karin's. The kids (scouts) enjoyed it. Glenn thought maybe parents might get involved at a later date, maybe on interstate project/ Paul's idea. Karin sent her appreciation. There should be some follow up. Maybe a few years of follow-up foliage applications? Maybe person who hunts there could do this.
3. Soil Testing Project- Andy reported that the county Land and Water Management Department received grant to test agricultural fields for phosphorus levels in the Ulao Watershed area. It will target and work with landowners of those high phosphorus areas. The Ulao Watershed area has ranked #70 in phosphorus delivery ( one is bad, two better) in a prior study. This study may lead to nutrient management plans for the area.
4. Approval of minutes: Andrew moved to approve, Andy seconded.
5. Other old business: The deicing letter went out to businesses in the mall area along Ulao Creek at Hwy. 60. August took it to many of the large businesses and explained the situation. Results were mixed. Target was the worst offender and their manager appeared disengaged, The manager at Costco was most interested. August also asked for donations to UCP but so far none have come in. Thanks to everyone who collaborated on this effort.

Birchwood is the landscaper who does the work at these places. Milwaukee Riverkeeper will be sampling this area of the creek again. We should communicate with them on this. We should also find ways to reinforce any progress made with store managers and follow up with them next year.

**6. Treasures of Oz**

UCP will have a booth at Forest Beach Migratory Preserve - the site of the celebration. Andy Holschbach will head up the treasure site at the Armin Schwengel Waterfowl Production Area. Dave Schwengel will try to arrange to be there as well. Andrew Struck will head up the treasure site at the Shady Land property, now part of Hawthorne Hills County Park. Steve Wilkinson will be at the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust treasure site at Kurtz Woods. Paul Helms will be at one of these sites and Glenn Miller will engage this troop to visit the sites.

7. Members are invited to come to the Ozaukee Treasures Network conference on March 21st at Forest Beach. Contact Marjie Tomter to get on the list.
8. Fish and Wildlife Restoration Project for Ulao Creek. Andrew reported on this major initiative for Ulao Creek. Phase one.

## UCP Meeting Minutes January 22, 2013 - Page 2

The 2 and 5 year floodplains for the creek have been delineated. The project stretches from the Kaul tributary through Hoppe and Helm properties to the Gateway property.

Project goals are broad:

- Increase wildlife diversity
- Reconnect that area to the original floodplain for spawning grounds
- Improve the channel for fisheries

The work will include a re-meander of a good portion of the stream, wetland scrapes and a bypass channel to U.S. Fish and Wildlife area. Phase One of the project is expected to be completed in 2013. It is expected to not only restore much of that area, some to the original channel, and to bring back some fish species, such as pike.

Phase two will head south and connect to the I-43 work and how that impacts the creek.

This should also should increase flood storage, liberate some springs, remove some invasive, and include some reforestation. Lengthening the stream will make a big difference for fish habitat. There will be peat soil excess during the construction. Part of re-meandering will reclaim the original channel and some of the historic nature of the creek.

Long-term management guidelines for the project area will be realistic.

Discussion ensued on types of trees to plant - aspen shrub willow, silver maple  
Ulao Creek Partnership will connect with new nursery on hwy. 60.

Paul asked if this will increase the need to widen the area at Hoppe's crossing. Andrew and August thought passage/ access points were adequate.

MMSD is not currently Involved in this.

9. Newsletter & Membership- same as last year. Tree giveaway. Articles (in 11 pt. font) should be submitted to newsletter...to Deb.by fifteenth of February. Newsletters may be sent electronically as well as in hard copies.

There was discussion of making contact with the area south of Pioneer Rd. and with all landowners touching the creek. Paul offered to deliver newsletters to them.

A motion was made by Paul to do tree giveaway, including installation, as part of the membership campaign as it proved successful last year. This was seconded by Mike. Discussion followed as to ways to recognize Johnson's Nursery for their part in making this happen.

10. The Annual Creek Walk will be February 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Paul will lead the walk. Participants should bring a sack lunch. We will meet at Kaul's Elk Winds Farm. 1669 Ulao Parkway South.

11. The Spring Project: UCP will field a team for the SEWISC Garlic Mustard Pull-a-thon. Teams will get pledges based on number of bags/pounds of gm pulled. Teams get 1/2 of the funds raised. SEWISC gets the other 1/2. Mike and Andy are both board members for SEWISC and will guide this very fun and worthwhile project. More information to come.

Next meeting: April. 9th

Motion to adjourn Paul, Andy seconded

Submitted by Marjie Tomter