

James W. Ridgway, P.E. Executive Director

Auburn Hills

Beverly Hills

Bingham Farms

Birmingham

Bloomfield Hills

Bloomfield Twp.

Canton Twp.

Commerce Twp.

Dearborn

Dearborn Heights

Farmington

Farmington Hills

Franklin

Garden City

Henry Ford Community

College

Lathrup Village

Livonia

Melvindale

Northville

Northville Twp.

Novi

Oak Park

Oakland County

Orchard Lake

Plymouth

Plymouth Twp.

Pontiac

Redford Twp.

Rochester Hills

Romulus Southfield

Troy

University of Michigan

-Dearborn

Van Buren Twp.

Walled Lake

Washtenaw County

Wayne

Wayne County

Wayne County Airport

Authority

Westland

Wixom

# Cooperating Partners:

Cranbrook Institute of Science Friends of the Rouge Rouge RAP Advisory Council Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority

Wayne State University

# DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY ALLIANCE OF ROUGE COMMUNITIES

April 17, 2012, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Summit on the Park, Chestnut Room, canton

# 1. Welcome (Gary Mekjian)

**a.** Roll Call /Determination of Quorum - Roll call was taken. The 25 members listed below were in attendance, which was sufficient for a quorum.

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

#### b. Introduction of ARC guests

G. Mekjian asked all guests in attendance to introduce themselves.

# c. Additions or Changes to the Draft Meeting Agenda

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

# d. Approval of November 1, 2011 Meeting Summary

The motion was made by Tim Faas, Canton, to approve the November 1, 2011 meeting summary. It was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, and passed unanimously.

# 2. Treasurers/Finance Committee Report (Don Rohraff, Treasurer)

#### a. 2011 ECT Contract Amendment

D. Rohraff reviewed the memo from ARC Staff regarding the budget adjustment for 2011 ARC PIE Committee activities. ARC staff requested a budget adjustment within the 2011 PIE Committee budget to transfer \$5,200 that was not expended from the Wayne County budget and \$2,240 that was not expended from the FOTR budget to cover the ARC staff variance in the PIE Committee budget. This will not require an increase in the overall ARC budget or the overall PIE Budget. It will require a contract amendment between the ARC and ECT in increase ECT's budget for 2011 by \$7,440. Two-thirds of the variance for ARC Staff in PIE1 was due to the rain barrel sales in 2011 and the remaining third of the variance was due to planning that had to begin in 2011 for workshops being held in early 2012. The motion was made by Kathy Hagaman, Bingham Farms, to approve the 2011 ECT Contract Amendment as presented by the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Wayne Domine, Bloomfield Twp., and passed unanimously.

# b. A/R and A/P Reports

Don Rohraff, Treasurer, reviewed the accounts receivable and accounts payable reports.

#### c. Membership Dues

D. Rohraff reported that the first round of ARC Dues assessments went out in February and we have begun to receive checks. The next round will go out in May.

#### d. 2012 Budget Amendment/ECT Contract Amendment

D. Rohraff reviewed the 2012 Budget Amendment, FC Amendment 1. The ARC received a two-year \$374,980 grant from the U. S. Forest Service to replace 2,000 trees lost to Emerald Ash Borer. The ARC was awarded the funding in October, 2011, with activities beginning on January 1, 2012. This amendment adds the 2012 U. S. Forest Service 1 grant budget line to the 2012 ARC Budget with funding anticipated for 2012 activities in the amount of \$187,490 with no match required. The remainder of the grant funds will be booked in the 2013 budget. The motion was made by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, to approve the 2012 Budget Amendment adding the USDA Forest Service Grant as presented by the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, and passed unanimously.

D. Rohraff reviewed the contract amendment which adds the USDA Forest Service Grant to the current ECT contract with the ARC. Tasks include project oversight, team meetings and planning, documentation of tree purchase and installation and grant management and final report preparation. The motion was made by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills, to approve the 2012 ECT Contract Amendment adding the USDA Forest Service Grant as presented by the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village and passed unanimously.

# 5. Executive Director Report

# a. Grant Status Report

# **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)**

# GLRI 1 (Transforming the Rouge)

- A contractor was selected last fall for the Wayne County Parks project (Lola Valley and Lower Rouge). Herbicide was applied to the project areas and all the grow zones were planted except for Lola Valley Park due to flooding.
- Valley Woods Wetland (Southfield): Phragmites removal is occurring this month, and a prescribed burn will be conducted this week or next week
- Detroit Parks, Rouge Park and Eliza Howell Park Grow Zones: Prescribed burns for the end of March, first week in April. Seeding will be done by volunteers.
- The Pre-Monitoring benthics surveys were completed in 2011. The first post monitoring sampling was held in January, 2012.
- The fifth quarterly report was submitted to GLNPO on January 15, 2012.

# GLRI 2 (Danvers Pond Dam Removal, Farmington Hills)

Construction work is out for bid with proposals were due April 10, 2012.

# Rouge Round X

#### RPO 1

Rouge Green Corridor Urban Habitat Improvement

• The riparian buffer development at sites in Beverly Hills, Southfield and Birmingham will be in May, 2012.

# SPAC 3: Developing a Coordinated Effort to Address Rouge AOC BUIs in the Upper Subwatershed

This grant is completed and the final report is being written.

#### **NOAA Fisheries Grant - Wayne Road Dam Removal:**

The Construction RFP was advertised this week and bids are due at the end of April. A public meeting will be held on April 26, 2012 at the Wayne Public Library.

K. Cave talked briefly about a citizen, Mr. Brock, who was protesting the Wayne Road Dam Removal project. After communication from Wayne County explaining the benefits of the project he has since rescinded his protest.

#### **MDEQ Monitoring Grant:**

This grant is for ARC staff to conduct water quality monitoring from the fall, 2011 to winter, 2013 in the Upper and Main 1-2 *E. coli* priority areas to narrow down sewage discharges during dry weather conditions.

 The QAPP was approved this week and a kick-off meeting was held with Southfield and OCWRC. The initial sample locations have been selected and field work will start within the next couple of weeks, weather permitting.

# U.S. Forestry/GLRI 2011:

The ARC was selected for a \$374,980 grant from the U.S. Forestry Service through the State of Michigan to purchase and plant 2,000 trees in the Rouge River Watershed in partnership with Wayne County and several ARC member communities. ARC staff is currently developing draft IAAs for the communities and preparing for a conference call with participating ARC members for next week. The table to the right shows the breakdown of communities that requested trees.

U. S. Forestry Grant				
ARC Member	# of Trees			
Bingham Farms	20			
Bloomfield Hills	50			
Bloomfield Twp.	25			
Canton Township	200			
Lathrup Village	40			
Livonia	105			
Plymouth Twp.	150			
Redford Township	25			
Rochester Hills	50			
Southfield	100			
Walled Lake	10			
Wayne	200			
Westland	125			
Wayne County	900			
Total:	2,000			

# **Outstanding Grant Applications:**

#### NOAA Fisheries Grant/GLRI:

The ARC in partnership with Wayne County, UM-D and the Henry Ford Estate submitted a \$350,000 grant application to NOAA for a grant to pay for the design of a fish passage at Henry Ford Estate Dam. NOAA will notify successful applicants in May. K. Cave added that Wayne County continues to work with the partners and owners of Henry Ford Estate on this important project.

## Public Advisory Council/Great Lakes Commission:

The ARC and the Rouge RAP Advisory Council (RRAC) submitted a \$50,000 grant application to the Great Lakes Commission to facilitate RRAC meetings; create an RRAC web page on the ARC website; update the Rouge Report Cards for each subwatershed, and create a Lower Rouge Delisting Strategy.

- J. Ridgway expressed the importance of continuing to work with RRAC to improve our competitiveness on future GLRI funding opportunities. The GLRI RFPs have varied from year to year but support from the Advisory Council is required for several opportunities. He also stated that some GLRI grant opportunities may come from the state as they try to have better coordination.
- K. Cave recognized the ARC Staff and cooperating partners for their efforts in bringing grant funds to the Rouge River Watershed.
- J. Ridgway introduced Gary Crawford from Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc. who gave a presentation on the recent controlled burns that took place at Valley Woods Nature Preserve in Southfield and at Rouge River Park and Eliza Howell Park in Detroit for the GLRI Transforming the Rouge project. The powerpoint presentation will be available on the ARC website.

#### b. Contested Case Update

J. Ridgway stated that the contested case had been stayed, the Circuit Court actions had been stayed and the Appellate Court action are expected this year. He informed the ARC

that most of the remaining counts were Headley related. After nearly a year of legal maneuvers, the lawyers expect more movement this year.

# c. Watershed Management Plan Update

J. Ridgway reported that the MDEQ has finished its review of the ARC's revisions to the WMP and sent a letter outlining MDEQ's comments. In general, MDEQ agrees with the ARC's four priority pollutants (E. coli, TSS, Nutrients and Volume) and thinks we did a good job of outlining the critical areas for those pollutants in the watershed. MDEQ has asked that we do a better job of linking projects to pollutant critical areas. We also need to prioritize the list of "wish list" projects and describe them better. J. Ridgway stated that the ARC Staff along with the officers and Technical and PIE Committee chairs will be meeting with the MDEQ to discuss their comments. Tracy Kecskemeti agreed with J. Ridgway's summary and added that the actions table needs to have a link to the critical areas. She stated that they support volume reductions strategies and that the scale of the document is a challenge but it is approvable.

# d. EPA GLNPO Legacy Project

J. Ridgway reported that any further refinements on the Legacy Act work plan and budget development are on hold until some administrative issues are hammered out. ARC staff determined that no money exchanges hands between the EPA and the ARC to complete the work. Instead, the EPA supplies the contractor support for any work funded by EPA, and the ARC would supply contractors for the ARC-funded portion of the work. The ARC was not planning to provide cash or in-kind match. The other project partners were not planning to provide cash match either. The ARC needs to determine how ARC administrative costs would be funded. The ARC Staff is working on ideas on how this can be accomplished. Meanwhile, a list of matching projects has been gathered from the project partners. This list needs to be presented to EPA to get their buy-in on the match. The ARC Staff is working on the strategy to complete this, as well.

# e. Detroit Water and Sewerage Department

J. Ridgway informed the Full ARC that he and Gary Mekjian have been communicating with DWSD in hopes of them joining the ARC. They have shown an interested and ARC Staff have forwarded them information on the ARC and its programs along with a membership dues invoice.

# 6. Standing Committee Reports

#### a. Organization Committee

K. Cave informed the Full ARC that Meghan Bonfiglio has left Washtenaw County and will no longer be serving on the Organization Committee. She noted that Meghan was a wonderful addition to the Organization Committee and put many hours into the revisions to the Bylaws. The Organization Committee would like the Full ARC to appoint two new members, Tim Faas and Kathy Hagaman, to the committee. The motion was made by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills to appoint Tim Faas and Kathy Hagaman to the Organization Committee. The motion was seconded by Kevin Buford, Westland, and passed unanimously.

# Revisions to ARC Bylaws

K. Cave gave an update on the revisions to the Bylaws. One of the major items the committee is updating is not requiring members to take the bylaws back to their

governing body when revisions are made to. The ARC could amend them in the future. There was discussion that the only time bylaws would be required to go back to the governing body is when a change was made to how the dues are calculated. In which case it would go to the governing body and would require 50% approval. An informal poll was taken and the majority wanted the ARC to be able to amend the bylaws with any fund allocation going back to the communities governing bodies. K. Cave stated that the Organization Committee will continue in this direction and should have the draft Bylaws for the next meeting.

K. Cave reviewed the draft options for the Executive Committee makeup to possibly streamline the meetings. There was some discussion regarding the size being too large for quorum purposes and also the redundancy of meetings. Staff stated that there has never been a meeting called because there was not a quorum. One option included county representation along with the ARC officers (7 member), another option kept the Executive Committee the same as it is currently (14 member) and the third was the same as what we currently have but with less SWAG representation (10 member). Members including Auburn Hills, Dearborn and Orchard Lake Village felt that the SWAG representation on the Executive committee is beneficial to the members. After discussion an informal poll was taken which showed the majority of members saying to leave the Executive Committee in its current 14 member form. K. Cave thanked the Full ARC for their direction on the matter and stated that they will continue with the Bylaws revisions.

K. Cave reviewed the draft ARC Nondiscrimination Policy which came up as part of the Forest Service grant the ARC just received. The grant funding required the ARC to accept the policy and the Organization Committee felt it would be a good policy to have going forward. The motion was made by James Gallogly, Northville, to adopt the ARC Nondiscrimination in Programs and Activities Policy as presented by the Organization Committee. The motion was seconded by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, and passed unanimously.

K. Cave reviewed the request by the Rouge RAP Advisory Council to become a Cooperating Partner in the ARC. The motion was made by Jeff Mueller, Lathrup Village, to approve the Cooperating Partner request by RRAC. The motion was seconded by Wayne Domine, Bloomfield Township and passed unanimously.

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

Brandy Siedlaczek reported that a golf course green infrastructure workshop was held in February with implementation in the fall for Livonia, Farmington Hills and Southfield. Rain barrel sales are planned for Livonia on April 21, Farmington Hills on June 16 and Lathrup Village on June 17. She informed the Full ARC that a homeowners native plant workshop was being on April 17 in Southfield and that a grow zone maintenance workshop is being planned for August or September. If any other communities are interested in hosting a rain barrel sale we have a new vendor that provides all aspects of the sale from online orders to staffing the event. Any communities interested should contact ARC Staff.

#### c. Technical Committee

Karen Mondora stated that the Wayne County scope of work has been prepared and was reviewed by the Technical Committee. The Oakland County scope of work will be discussed at the Technical Committee meeting as well.

She informed the Full ARC that the Technical Committee has decided to condense the IDEP training from a full day to a ½ day session.

Karen informed the membership that the Technical Committee decided to create a work group to develop a guidance document on how to fund residential illicit connection corrections in the watershed. She gave some background that communities are identifying illicit connections from failed septic systems, but they have limited funding options to assist homeowners with the corrections. This is especially problematic in lower income areas where running a new lead will cost a homeowner up to \$20,000 and that is not much higher than the home's value. Initial funding options discussed included: Community block grants, SRF loans, Chapter 20 under the Drain Code, and special assessment districts. At the meeting, they will discuss the pros and cons of these and other funding options. Please come and share your experiences on this topic. Currently, there are representatives from Northville Twp., Farmington Hills, Southfield and OCWRC in the work group. The first meeting is scheduled for May 9, from 1:30-3:30 pm in Farmington Hills. Please let ARC Staff know if you are interested.

K. Mondora informed the Committee that the Web-based Reporting System has been moved to the ARC server. The system release date has been scheduled for May 1 with a training planned at Henry Ford Community College for June or July. As a reminder, members should request that the MDEQ to move their annual report period to end on December 31 with their report due March 30.

A. DeMaria informed the Committee that the Detroit Water Agenda (Ken Cockrel's Green Task Force) should be available soon. It outlines water resource BMPs focused on sustainable development practices with a focus on environmental justice, water affordability, conservation, storm water management, pollution prevention, etc.

Karen Mondora stated that the next meeting of the MDEQ MS4 Workgroup is scheduled for June 6 at 1:00 p.m.

#### 7. Report from WCDPS

K. Cave stated that they are preparing the 2011 Rouge progress report and asked that communities forward their photos and success stories to Wayne County for inclusion in the report. She also informed the Full ARC that the Household Hazardous Waste e-collection report will be on the Wayne County website for their use on their annual reports.

K. Cave informed the committee that the DEQ 205J grant was approved by the County to do Green Infrastructure planning in Wayne County. They will also be preparing an O&M manual.

K. Cave announced that another round of Rouge subgrants will be available this year to ARC communities, both sanitary and nonpoint. This Rouge IX funding will be smaller than previous years and will be out within the next month.

# 8. Opportunity for Public Comment

Sally Petrella, Friends of the Rouge, reported that stonefly hatching was found by the concrete channel. She also informed the group that 7 of the 8 species of frogs/toads were calling in March because of the warm weather we experienced. Sally Petrella talked about the grant funding from River Network for FOTR. This would fund review of the goals of FOTR and work with the Board as a whole as FOTR moves forward as an organization. She informed the ARC that the spring bug hunt is April 21. She also summarized several FOTR fundraising opportunities that can be found on the FOTR website at www.therouge.org.

Bill Craig thanked the ARC on behalf of Dan Balnik for accepting the Rouge River Advisory Council as a cooperating partner.

Tracy Kecskemeti, MDEQ, informed the membership that no SWPPI letter is needed for May 1.

# 9. Summary of Actions of Full Alliance (Chris O'Meara, ARC staff)

- The motion was made to approve the November 1, 2011, meeting summary.
- The motion was made to approve the 2011 ECT contract amendment as presented by the Treasurer.
- The motion was made to approve the 2012 Budget Amendment to add the US Forest Service Grant as presented by the Treasurer.
- The motion was made to approve the 2012 ECT contract amendment to include the US Forest Service Grant work as presented by the Treasurer.
- The motion was made to approve the appointment Tim Faas and Kathy Hagaman to the Organization Committee.
- The motion was made to approve the ARC Nondiscrimination in Programs and Activities Policy as presented by the Organization Committee.
- The motion was made to approve the Cooperating Partner request by RRAC.

#### 10. Upcoming Meeting Schedule (C. O'Meara)

- IDEP Funding Work Group, May 9, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Farmington Hills
- PIE Committee Meeting, June 12, 2012, 1:00 p.m., Riet Schumack's house
- Technical Committee meeting, June 13, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Farmington Hills
- Rain Barrel Sale June 16 in Farmington Hills
- Rain Barrel Sale June 17 in Lathrup Village
- PIE Committee Meeting, July 12, 2012, noon lunch, meeting at 1:00 p.m., Howard Knorr's house

#### 9. Other Business

There was no other business.

# 11. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kevin Buford, Westland, and seconded by Shawn Keenan, Auburn Hills. The motion passed unanimously.

# Alliance of Rouge Communities Attendance List Meeting Date: 4/17//2

Name			Community	Attended	Initials
			Redford Township		
Balint	John		Pontiac		Administration of the second o
Bali	Zachare		ECT		
Barnes	Jack		Garden City	网	ann
Barrett	Robert		Oak Park		
Baumgarten	Matt		Lathrup Village		
Belair	Bob		Canton Township	X	RIS
Beri	Jim		Melvindale		
Beyer	Lori		Washtenaw County Road Commis	$\overline{\times}$	退
Bobrin	Janis		Washtenaw County Water Resour		
Borton	Cory		HRC		
Brooks	Dan		Dearborn Heights		
Buford	Kevin		Westland	$\nabla$	K.L.B.
Buiten	Mike		Wayne		
Carroll	Terry		Van Buren Township		
Casari	Tom		Northville Township	又	TAC
Cave	Kelly		WCDPS	X	VAC
Coburn	Brian		Novi		
Colaianne	Joe		Oakland County		- Vocation
cousino Bockon	Brendon	Cost	Birmingham	× &	B CB
Cravens	Jay		Bloomfield Hills		
Cureton	Lloyd		Walled Lake		
Davis	Paul		Rochester Hills		
DeMaria	Annette		ECT		
Dombrowski	Tony		Pontiac		
Domine	Wayne		Bloomfield Township	V	WH

ARC Attendance List

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Drabczyk	Laura	University of Michigan-Dearborn		
El-Gharib	Ramzi	Wayne		
Eudy	Chuck	Farmington		
Faas	Tim	Canton Township		TF
Fellrath	Patrick	Plymouth Township	$\overline{}$	PF
Gallogly	James	Northville		2 PY
Gigliotti	Allen	Henry Ford Community College		
Greco	Sam	Henry Ford Community College	3	46
Gruzwalski	Laura	Village of Beverly Hills		Ing
Gruzwalski	Laura	Bloomfield Hills		
Gruzwalski	Laura	Troy		
Gruzwalski	Laura	Village of Franklin		
Gushman	Kevin	Farmington		
Hagaman	Kathryn	Bingham Farms	U	190 H
Howell	Michael	Wixom		
James	Jay	Commerce Township		
Keenan	Shawn	Auburn Hills		Al
Ketai	Don	Bingham Farms		
Kramarz	Kristina	Dearborn Heights		
Mandelia	Kitty	ECT		
McCallum	Gerry	Orchard Lake Village		
McClary	Darwin	Garden City		
McCulloch	John	Oakland County		
McCusker	Benny	Westland		
McGill	Lisa	Walled Lake	V	M
Mekjian	Gary	Farmington Hills		7 5
Melchert	Ron	Auburn Hills		

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Meszler	Tom	Village of Beverly Hills		
Mondora	Karen	Farmington Hills		*M
Moore	Roger	Rochester Hills		
Mueller	Jeff	Lathrup Village		JM
Mullett	Noel	WCDPS		
Murray	Jim	Dearborn		
Nowicki	Anthony	Wixom		
Olsztyn	Olivia	Bloomfield Township		
O'Meara	Paul	Birmingham		
Ostling	Eric	Orchard Lake Village		800
Porman	Chris	Plymouth		
Pritchard	Jana	Plymouth Township		
Putala	Vicki	Farmington		VMP
Puuri	Steve	Washtenaw County Road Commis		
Rice	Heather	Washtenaw County Water Resour	X	AMR
Ridgway	Jim	ECT	<u> </u>	a
Rohraff	Don	Livonia	M	DR
Scappaticci	Roberto	Romulus		
Schultz	Leigh	Southfield		
Selmi	John	Redford Township	X	A.
Siedlaczek	Brandy	Southfield		20
Sincock	Paul	Plymouth		
Smrtka	Barb	Farmington Hills		
St. Henry	Paul	Livonia		
Staup	Aaron	Novi	义	NB
Sullivan	Patrick	Northville		7
Sullivan	Amy	Village of Franklin		

Name		Community	Attended	Initials
Szczygiel	Larry	Dearborn		
Vandette	Steven	Troy		
Wagoner	Bryan	Wayne County Airport Authority		
White	Paul	Van Buren Township		
Wilson	Tom	Romulus		
Wineka	Jim	Oakland County		- Jan
Yee	Kevin	Oak Park		Faregon
Zoner	Tom	Commerce Township		

ARC Attendance List Page 4 of 5

Name	Community	Attended	Initials
Sally Petrella	FOTR		SP
Sally Petrella Tracy Kloskemeti	MDER		亚
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			ATTENDED !
	COMMON CO		
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Service Servic			
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