

## **Public Involvement/Public Education (PIPE) Meeting Meeting Minutes for November 17, 2009**

### **Committee Members Present:**

Jackie Branch, Village of East Canton; Marilyn Carrick, Perry Township; Barbara Hall, Village of East Canton; Joe Iacino, Plain Township; Rachel Lewis, Stark County Regional Planning (RPC); John Masalko, Perry Township; Sean Moriarty, Plain Township; Bethany Perkowski, Stark County Health Department, Joni Poindexter, Jackson Township; Brian Prunty, Stark Soil and Water Conservation District; Malia Watkins, RPC

The meeting commenced at 10:05 a.m. with introductions by each member present and since nobody from the general public was present, discussion went straight to item three on the agenda. Iacino commented that Moriarty had recently been added as an inspector and will be monitoring the stormwater runoff for the township. Moriarty asked if anybody had any elementary school-appropriate presentations that could be shown at the schools. Watkins said that she had a couple of slideshows and a video that she could send to him. Prunty said that a teacher workshop grant had been applied for to assist with education programming, but it had not been awarded yet. Moriarty informed the committee that they were ordering decals to mark storm drains, etc. from DAS Industries and that the more they ordered, the cheaper each would be. The committee was invited to add to this order. Watkins informed the committee that PIPE/stormwater information was available on the SCRPC website.

Moving on to item four on the agenda, Watkins asked if anyone had any ideas for 2010 projects that could go along with the Low Impact Development/Green Infrastructure theme. Prunty suggested that each township hold a rain garden workshop. He said that planting materials were donated from local nurseries when Plain Township conducted their workshop, which had a good turnout of 30-40 people. Prunty suggested that a press release displaying a set schedule for all of the townships be released so that people unable to make one workshop may be able to attend another one. He also said that he could do a rain barrel installation presentation if requested, for which Jackson High School would be an ideal location for one. Prunty said that if each township held their own workshop, then the requirement that 50 percent of the population be reached for educational goals would be more easily met. Possible advertising methods for the workshop were then discussed briefly.

Moriarty stated that Plain Local Schools were helping to create a mascot for their stormwater program, which is part of the requirements for permitting. Prunty suggested that the committee consider doing a county-wide mascot for which possible grant money from the Ohio Environmental Educational Fund may be available. Iacino said that they were going to change their decals to include the mascot. He agreed to send information on their mascot contest to the rest of the committee.

Prunty informed the committee that they were holding a contractor workshop on December 10<sup>th</sup> for which political jurisdiction representatives must attend to get stormwater program credit.

Under item five, funding scenarios, the committee agreed to develop these as they went along. Iacino asked if the committee members were planning on doing another Earth Day and suggested that if they were, then maybe they could do a combined Earth Day event at a central location which could be bigger and better than each jurisdiction doing their own event. One possible location mentioned for this event was the Stark County Fairgrounds.

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for February to further discuss the rain garden workshops. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.