

Stream Team Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 17, 2011

Attendees: Kelley Curran, Joe Balwierczak, Wes Boyce, Mike Duffy, Roger Edwards, Chuck Gullage, Frank Stillinger and Barbara Wefing

The meeting began at 9:35 AM.

Kelley distributed the previously-approved minutes of the Stream Team meeting held on December 2, 2010.

The current status of the Great Brook monitoring program was summarized by Kelley. The final report has been drafted by Roger and the finishing touches are being made. The report will be submitted to the NJDEP upon completion.

A status update on the Upper Passaic monitoring program was given by Kelley. The first round of samples was collected in February. Access to some of the sites proved difficult due to the snow accumulations. Results have not yet been received from the lab but are expected any day. Roger will tabulate and summarize once they have been received.

Roger provided the attendees with an interesting graph of flow data from the USGS gauging station located at the outlet of the Great Swamp on the Passaic River at Millington Gorge. It clearly shows the rain events as well as indicates snow melt contributions. Roger also added CoCoRAHs precipitation data to the chart. This data can be accessed online through the USGS and CoCoRAHs websites.

Kelley provided an update on the Silver Brook Restoration project. GSWA is currently awaiting word from Christ the King Church in Harding for final approval of the planting design in order to schedule a planting date. If this date turns out to be after Kelley's departure, Barbara has agreed to gather volunteers to assist with the planting upon hearing back from the Church.

At the last S&T Committee meeting, volunteers were solicited to help gather resources on residential drinking water quality reports and testing resources. GSWA hopes to include this information on our website in the future.

Everyone was reminded of the upcoming stream cleanup event at Loantaka Brook Reservation on April 9th starting at 9:30am. Joe and Frank will be taking the lead on coordinating the event this year.

Kelley touched on NJ's new Fertilizer Control Bill. In an act to reduce nutrient pollution to our waterbodies, this bill (now law) establishes standards for certain fertilizer applications, provides for the certification of professional fertilizer applicators, and regulates sale and labeling of certain fertilizers. This is a great thing to help improve water quality in NJ!

A listing of upcoming programs and events was provided with special attention to Dr. Lee Pollock's macroinvertebrate presentation on Tuesday, May 24th. All Stream Team members are strongly encouraged attend and learn how these critters act as indicators of our streams' water quality.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, May 16th at 6:30pm as a joint meeting with the GSWA Science & Technology Committee.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelley Curran