

# LAKE CREEK GREENWAY PARTNERSHIP

## 5-20-2015

Call to Order: 7:15

Present: Krien VerBerkmoes, Becky Zitterich, Bob Wise, Tom Grayson, Allen Livingston, Glenn Buckley.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

All present agreed to serve as members of the Board

### OFFICERS OF ORGANIZATION:

The follow agreed to serve as the initial officers

President – Glenn Buckley

Vice President – Becky Zitterich

Secretary – Krien VerBerkmoes

Treasurer – ACTION: Tom will check with Carl Gerhardt

### INITIAL COMMITTEES:

Krien reviewed the committees listed in the bylaws we agreed to the following initial lead responsibilities-

Financial – Krien and Tom

Nominations – Deferred until needed

Membership – Becky and Tom

Trails and Waterways – Allen and Bob

### Additional Committees Discussed

Publicity - discussed the need for a contact with the local papers and someone to help market the organization and it's goals. ACTION: Tom agreed to approach Chrissy Leggett Allen with the Community Impact Newsletter.

Financial/Development Committee – Responsible for identifying potential funding sources and preparing grant applications for special projects like conference/nature center.

Events – Will revisit as organization develops

### MISSION STATEMENT:

As stated in the By Laws submitted to the state and IRS

### LOGO

Some discussion regarding what should be included on a logo representing the organization.

Krien suggested that it should be relatively simple and submitted a suggestion based on guidance from other organizations. Glenn submitted one that included a characteristic palmetto and heron, but was more complex. ACTION: Allen agreed to take the two designs to some graphic artists he knows for their help.

### DUES/FUNDING SOURCES:

Agreed that dues should be modest so as not to be an impediment to membership. There was also some discussion regarding the benefits of membership.

**GREENPRINT FOR AREA:**

Glenn noted that there is a kickoff meeting at the HGAC office on June 11 and that he will make sure that those who asked get an invite.

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATION AT THE SAM HOUSTON NATIONAL FOREST:**

Glenn noted that a recent meeting of key volunteers at the Sam Houston National Forest may be a model for how we integrate volunteer efforts. Will follow up as we learn more.

**OTHER ACTIONS:**

Membership – Becky will write up and send to Tom suggestions on membership dues including youth, individual, family and corporate as well as how we might handle sponsorships. Becky and Tom will begin contacting the youth groups as potential supporters/members. Candidates include: HS science clubs, interact clubs, Lone Star College environmental club. Tom as agrees to approach contacts at John Cooper, Kincaid and St. John's.

Becky will also work with Glenn on plans for potential future seminars for members.

Trails and Waterways – Glenn will send Becky a list of the contacts from the March Wildlife & Woodland Expo at the Lone Star College. Additional take out/entry locations are needed. Tom will send Bob/Allen contact info on owners of the soccer/motorcross park on I45 as a possible entry/take out location for the canoe/kayak trail. Becky will send Bob/Allen her list of canoe/kayak enthusiasts as candidates for committee membership.

Survey of Property Ownership – Glenn will arrange a time next week when he and Becky can meet at the County Appraisal Office to begin identifying candidates for easements or potential acquisitions.

Conference/Nature Center – Discussion that Conference Center/Nature needed to be a higher priority to offer restrooms and meeting/training facilities for those using the preserve. Glenn will incorporate the change in priority into the draft strategic plan.

Strategic Plan – Glenn will prepare a draft strategic plan for the committee to review within the week.

**NEXT MEETING: TBD**

Adjourn: 9:15pm

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Glenn Buckley  
President

# LAKE CREEK GREENWAY PARTNERSHIP

## BOARD MINUTES JUNE 24, 2015

Call to Order 7:05 pm

BOARD PRESENT: Glenn, Becky, Bob, and Tom Grayson in time for quorum for business decision.

GUEST: Rick Milne

### REPORT ON RECENT MEETINGS:

Chrissy Leggett Mgr. Community Impact: Positive response regarding project, but non-committal about joining Board at this time due to daughters schedule. Mentioned a person at Conroe Courier who would be interested in what we are doing.

Virgil Yoakum, VP Johnson Development: Tom and Glenn met briefly to discuss the idea of the nature center in the context of a community center.

### HOUSTON WILDERNESS REGIONAL PLAN & GREENPRINT:

Review for Rick to bring into discussion.

### LOGO:

Difficulty getting consensus. Glenn will try to develop an option that considers what has been done and addresses the disparate concerns: simplicity and representing the key elements of our organization. This is a priority as it is needed for recognition at coming events.

TREASURER: Open position and agreed that would be best to recruit a financial person. Current candidates can't legally act in that capacity.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial – Glenn has a \$250 donation that needs to be deposited as soon as we have a bank account. Need a Board resolution to set up a bank account appoint Board members who will have signing authority for our account. Bob made motion and Tom seconded to name Glenn Buckley and Becky Zitterich as designated signers on bank account Tom made motion that any check over \$1000 requires 2 signatures Approved unanimously by all. Resolution attached.

Membership – See membership report attached. Additional items discussed/suggested

- Support for calling dues a membership donation
- Wilderness Passport and links to other organizations could be an additional perk
- Membership patch
- Need a membership application form
- Discussed Take Care of Texas Award as another value to volunteers.

Trails Committee- Report attached. Additional items discussed:

- Developing an electronic work list (tasks and volunteers)
- Rick offered his services on the trails/waterway. We specifically discussed the need for a boat launch ramp at the FCT bridge.

- Bob will follow up with Beck on Lone Star College Montgomery Rotoract Club email address [lscmrotoract@gmail.com](mailto:lscmrotoract@gmail.com)
- Use Keep Montgomery County Beautiful website [kmcbtexas.org](http://kmcbtexas.org)
- Harold with Conroe Tourist Bureau will be interested in opening paddling trail
- Discussion of paperless trail guide w QR codes etc.

#### BUDGET:

- Operating budget- from membership donations.
- Special Projects – Move Web Site to special projects
  - Need seed money to set up web site

#### WEB SITE

- Look at KMCB site for idea.
  - Tom suggested Ray Orr "New Vista Video" to set up website perhaps \$ 250 to set up and \$250/ year to maintain. Tom will talk to Ray Orr to see if he will work on website with us.
- Travis- the Magnolia Parkway Chamber of Commerce young guy assistant does websites

#### PRESENTATIONS

- Need a list of groups we want to present to
- Glenn is scheduled to present to the Woodlands Garden Club in November

#### OTHER ISSUES:

- Future Meeting Room for larger groups- consider HEB
- Funding Sources
  - Natures Way
  - Companies along Research Forest
- Coming Events-
  - Two Eagle Projects, Boardwalk Repair and Trail Maintenance on coming Saturday.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00+-

Becky Zitterich  
832-922-1129

# **MEETING WITH CHARLIE RILEY ON LAKE CREEK GREENWAY July 20, 2015**

Bob Wise and Dave Pierce joined me in meeting with Charlie and reviewing our short and long term plans. Charlie was very interested in the concept and wanted to know more about how Spring Creek was developed. We recognized that the Spring Creek project was a joint Harris/Montgomery County Project so this would be a bit different.

We discussed where the county could help in the short run: preserve parking and the canoe/kayak launch/take out point at the Fish Creek Thoroughfare Bridge over Lake Creek. Charlie wanted to move on the parking area for the preserve as soon as we can get the agreement with Woodforest.

## **Action Items:**

- Glenn to obtain contact information for Robert W Collins who was the lead attorney on the Spring Creek Project.
- Glenn to contact Everett Coverdell with Woodforest to obtain approval to develop a small (5-8 car) parking area near the entrance gate just inside the current gate. The gate would be moved east past the eastern trail head so the road could be sealed off to prevent further dumping (this had already been discussed with Everett).
- Charlie will arrange to have the illegal dump materials removed from the area next to current trail head at the current trail head.
- Charlie will contact the San Jacinto River Authority to determine plans for the gravel road and pad installed at Lake Creek on the west side of the bridge.
- Charlie will follow up with Craig to examine the role the county can play in the project and check on the availability of the county grant writer.

# LAKE CREEK GREENWAY PARTNERSHIP

## BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2015

Call to Order 7:05 pm

BOARD PRESENT - Krien VerBerkmoes, Becky Zitterich, Bob Wise, Allen Livingston, David Pierce, Glenn Buckley.

APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES – Becky Zitterich moved to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Bob Wise. Unanimous vote to accept.

STATUS OF GREENPRINT PROCESS – Next Conference Call to be Aug 27<sup>th</sup> and Glenn to participate and report back next month.

WEBSITE – Glenn reported a slight hitch in moving pictures onto the site, some were rotating, but believes that it is now working. Becky to talk to developer to see how quickly we could have it up and running live. Glenn will provide live review and demonstration of the site at the end of the meeting.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – Becky indicated that focus is developing the on-line recruitment component of the website and getting exposure in the local newspapers. We need to get the “Impact” article in the Woodlands edition.

TRAILS AND WATERWAYS- Bob indicated that he has walked the Orange trail and it looks to be in good shape. The cut bank is continuing to creep toward the bench along the trail at that point and we will to monitor and determine if trail will need to be moved. The Blue trail will need to be weed-wacked to widen it. Glenn indicated that there may be an Eagle project to do maintenance.

Bob will draw up calendar of work dates so that it can be included on the website and also be available for communication to other organizations that may want to volunteer.

Allen indicated that Monday August 31<sup>st</sup> he will be conducting a work day on Lake Creek. He and others will be paddling the creek and starting to take out downed limbs etc. and to scout out possible access points along the way. They will probably go all the way to I-45. He will also draw a safety plan that can be used for such projects.

FINANCIAL – Glenn reports that there is \$250 in the checking account and have an outstanding bill for \$278. We are still waiting on the check from Exxon and will we not know any more on the possible grant from Union Pacific until February.

PUBLICITY – Nothing to report.

PENDING MEETINGS - Glenn made everyone aware of the following meeting:

- Bayou Land Conservancy – August 27<sup>th</sup>

OUTREACH MEETINGS – Woodlands Garden Club, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Glenn brought the issue of the potential environmental issue on Lake Creek upstream from the Preserve. Quadvest is looking into putting in a water treatment plant and the permit request does not provide for sediments, sledge flow, overflow levels and possible underestimate of flows and size of the facility needed. Glenn will continue to monitor the situation.

Glenn also indicated that there are survey stakes in for the parking area at the trailhead. As discussed previously, Commissioner Riley has pledged to provide assets for the entrance road and parking area.

Next meeting date to be determined later and the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Submitted by:

Krien VerBerkmoes  
Secretary

# **LAKE CREEK GREENWAY PARTNERSHIP BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 6, 2015**

Call to Order 7:15 pm

BOARD PRESENT - Krien VerBerkmoes, Becky Zitterich, Bob Wise, David Pierce, Glenn Buckley, Tom Grayson.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES – Tom Grayson moved to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Becky Zitterich. Unanimous vote to accept.

BOARD COMPOSITION – Glenn initiated discussion about increasing size of board from 9 to 11 members. After discussion it was decided to remain at 9. Glenn also indicated that Kelly McDonald has accepted the position of treasurer.

Bob made a motion to reserve a board seat for an agriculture landowner. It was seconded by Becky. After discussion it was approved by a 5-1 vote.

WEBSITE – Glenn reported that it is now up and running. Becky indicated that all directors have the ability to have an email address that would consist of “first initial and last name @ lakecreektx.org”

NEW COMMITTEES – Glenn initiated discussion on the need to have a “Property Committee” and a “Fund Raising Committee.” The intent of the Property Committee would be to help keep track of properties, etc. to determine who owns property along the creek.

There was discussion on the need to have an individual to lead the Fund Raising Committee given that the various projects that the board would like to see come to fruition, for example the desire to have a nature center built on the 500 acre parcel, we will need to be raising substantial capital. Glenn stated that we need to work on getting a high level cost estimate for the center.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES – It appears that the owner of property behind Carriage Hills subdivision and that fronts Lake Creek, may have cleared some of the acreage that may have been deemed wetlands and in the flood plain without proper approval. A complaint has been filed with the Corp of Engineers by an area resident.

OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC MEETING- The proposed agenda for the public meeting that will be held at the HEB store on FM 1488 in their community room.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

MEMBERSHIP – Becky indicated that the membership form will be available for the public meeting at HEB. We need to start recruiting people to join.



TRAILS AND WATERWAYS- Bob indicated that a new eagle project to add additional sections to an existing boardwalk has been approved. He also indicated that there is an individual scout who wants to put together a trail maintenance project.

Glenn stated that Don Dean has indicated that while the county is working on Fish Creek Thoroughfare, they would provide work on the entrance road to the preserve and grade out a parking lot also at the trailhead.

FINANCIAL – The check from Exxon has been received and will we not know any more on the possible grant from Union Pacific until February.

PUBLICITY – Nothing to report.

#### OUTREACH MEETINGS

- Public Meeting at HEB, October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Woodlands Garden Club, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Dave asked if there are any programs through the TPWD that we could possibly take advantage of. He was directed to the TPWD website.

Next board meeting will be November 17<sup>th</sup> and the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Submitted by:

Krien VerBerkmoes  
Secretary

# **LAKE CREEK GREENWAY PARTNERSHIP BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 17, 2015**

Call to Order 7:10 pm

BOARD PRESENT - Krien VerBerkmoes, Becky Zitterich, David Pierce, Glenn Buckley, Tom Grayson, Allen Livingston.

GUEST – Kelly Hamann, President Magnolia Chamber of Commerce

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES – Tom Grayson moved to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Becky Zitterich. Unanimous vote to accept with change to item concerning the property behind the Carriage Hills sub-division.

FINANCIALS – Glenn indicated that there is \$1,000 in the checking account and have current obligations of \$300 to Bob Wise and \$75 to Glenn.

The grant request to Union Pacific for \$12,000 is still pending.

Annual budget items include:

- Web site fees - \$250
- Mailbox - \$144
- Office Supplies - \$150
- Liability Insurance - ? Need to research costs.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

MEMBERSHIP – Becky discussed the public meeting that was held at HEB. She believes that it went well with open conversation with local landowners.

Sendera Ranch may be interested in meeting with us.

She also talked with the Woodlands Corporation and they thought some issues we need to be concerned about include: governance, liability and ATVs.

Tom commented that we need to: have communication with members, maintain a mailing list, and have offers to members for getting new members.

PUBLICITY – Glenn stated that his meeting with the Woodlands Garden Club went well.

The board discussed with Kelly Hamann our membership with the Chamber and what we can do to take advantage of it. It was decided that Krien will attend their breakfast on February 9<sup>th</sup>, there will be a ribbon cutting at the Preserve February 10<sup>th</sup> and an open house February 20<sup>th</sup>.

PRESERVE/TRAILS – On October 28<sup>th</sup>, Dave met with Kelly Norad of the TPWD at the Preserve to evaluate the property. Kelly stated that it is a “gem” and wants to have additional TPWD staff look at it. He indicated that he would like a sit down after Thanksgiving.

Glenn stated that there are still large trucks using the road in front of the trailhead and until they are finished with the new road construction just to the north, the parking lot and road upgrade project will be on hold. The county, however, will be putting up signs shortly on Fish Creek Thoroughfare near the entrance.

CANOE TRAIL – Allen indicated that a date is needed to do survey of the creek. He also indicated that SJRA has okayed the use of their pad by the creek.

NATURE CENTER FUNDING – Board discussed the need of getting a basic cost estimate for a funding drive. Tom indicated he will make a few calls to Lonestar College and Glenn will continue to follow up also on some leads.

#### OTHER DISCUSSIONS

The Greenprint project will be having their next meeting in February. Becky indicated that she will be meeting with NRCS January 11<sup>th</sup>.

Next board meeting will be January 19<sup>th</sup> and the meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Submitted by:

Krien VerBerkmoes  
Secretary