



Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup

Special Meeting of the Executive Board

8/17/2017

10:00 PM-11:30 AM

Libertyville Village Hall, Second Floor, 118 W. Cook St, Libertyville IL 60048

Meeting Minutes

1. Call the meeting to order: Brian Dorn called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.
2. Roll Call – see attendee list below.
3. Public Comment – None.
4. IPS model – Chris Yoder presented a powerpoint presentation on what constitutes a bioassessment and the Integrated Prioritization System (IPS) Model. A bioassessment is a determination regarding how healthy the aquatic life is using biological indicators and chem/physical data. One of the designated uses of a water body under the Clean Water Act is “Aquatic Use.” The law’s language is “Protection and propagation of fish, shellfish and wildlife = Aquatic Life Use.” This is a goal and expectation for how a water body will be used. Other uses include “Recreation”, “Public Drinking Water Supply”, etc. The Aquatic Life Use is the most stringent and therefore the driver for all actions. To evaluate Aquatic Life Use you need data on ionic strength, nutrients, sediment, metals, organics and chlorophyll-a. Collection of benthic macroinvertebrates varies by state, but results are reported uniformly. Habitat is evaluated based on: substrate, instream cover, channel quality, riparian, pool-run-riffle and gradient. Spatial sampling is critical to get enough data to see where impairments are on a restoration scale. Ecological health is the endpoint of concern.
The Habitat Profile is excellent on the main stem due to the Lake County Forest Preserve land. Moderate to high silt cover is pervasive in the Watershed. The end goal is biological assemblages that meet the State’s biocriteria = 41 IBI.
Fish IBI – in 1983 the whole river was non-attaining poor rated. In 2016 the whole river is non-attaining fair rated. The improvement is likely due to wastewater treatment plant upgrades, according to Chris Yoder. If fish cannot get over a dam, it can affect the entire upriver of the Watershed. The smaller the stream, the lower the IBI score.
The macroinvertebrate index is met at all but 3 sampling locations.
No deformities were seen on fish (tumors, fin deformities, etc.)
MBI will report impairments and likely causes for the impairment. IEPA also lists causes for impairments but they do not always agree with MBI’s.
Integrated Prioritization System (IPS) Model is an integrated analysis with an output that is an interactive GIS map. Output of model can be queried and “what if” queries.
It would be the end of 2018 to get a final report of the IPS model output.
5. Old Business – None
6. Other Business - None

7. Adjourn – Jim Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Joe Robinson seconded. The meeting ended at 11:30 am.

Executive Board Members Present:

Brain Dorn, DRWW President, NSWRD

Al Giertych, DRWW Vice President, Lake County DOT

Michael Talbett, DRWW Treasurer, Village of Kildeer

Paul Kendzior, DRWW Secretary, Village of Libertyville

Joe Robinson, DRWW Monitoring/WQ Improvements Committee Chair, NSWRD

Jim Anderson, DRWW Member at Large, Lake County Forest Preserve District

Mike Adam, DRWW Lakes Committee Chair, LCHD

Other Attendees:

Chris Yoder, MBI

Beth Adler, DRWW Technical Coordinator

Leslie Berns, LCFPD

Austin McFarlane, Lake County Public Works

Steve Vella, Village of Libertyville

Mike Warner, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

Donald Hey, Wetlands Research, Inc. (WRI)

Kathy Paap, WRI

Isabella Jordi, WRI