

Minutes for regular meeting of Beargrass Creek Alliance held via Zoom on Monday, February 21, 2022. Attending were Linda Gugin, president, Jim St. Clair, secretary, Susan Griffin Ward, David Spenard, David Rummler, Barbara Berman, Hart Hagan, Gordon Garner, Steve Ricketts, Ed Allgeier, and Ann and Dan Siebert.

### **Topics of Discussion**

The primary topic of discussion was changes in the organizational structure of BCA, which Linda noted has the full support of Kentucky Waterways Alliance. Changes under the reorganization include instituting membership dues, making online payments available for dues and contributions, changes in frequency of meetings, creating strategies for increasing membership, formalizing the relationship between BCA and KWA, and recruiting coordinators and members of the four Communities of Interest, or COIs.

The three levels of membership and annual fees are: sustaining, \$40; regular, \$20; student, \$5. Other levels of membership that might be added later include household and organizational or corporate with the annual fees still to be determined. Commenting on organization or corporate membership, David Spenard said they should pay more than \$40. At an earlier steering committee meeting, he also said that it was important that such groups designate one person to be a representative at meetings.

Linda noted that membership in BCA will also include membership in Kentucky Waterways Alliance. Susan said KWA would add a page on its website for BCA that would facilitate paying dues for BCA membership and accepting contributions. Gordon said it makes sense in the short term to use KWA's mechanism. In addition, Linda noted that KWA has sent BCA a memorandum of agreement that will make KWA our fiscal sponsor. This will allow contributions to BCA to qualify as tax deductible.

While board members of BCA will continue meeting monthly, meetings of the general membership will only meet four times a year; for the rest of the year, those meetings will be May 23, August 22 and November 21. If a date falls on a holiday, the meeting will shift to the next day.

With such changes as implementing dues, having fewer meetings of members and the implementing Communities of Interest (COIs), Linda said it's a good time to devise strategies for increasing membership, adding that past members may be interested in returning to BCA and having tables at upcoming spring and summer events will offer opportunities for recruiting new members.

Meetings of Communities of Interest, which are formed around the four main goals of BCA— water quality, monitoring development projects, education and advocacy, and financial resources--will meet on a schedule to be determined by members of each COI. A portion of the agenda for quarterly meetings of BCA most likely will be devoted to reports from the various COIs. Linda asked that members let her know what COI they are interested in joining; her email is [lgugin@ius.edu](mailto:lgugin@ius.edu)

At the request of Barbara Berman, Linda wrote a letter to Jecorey Arthur of the Metro Council in support of a weed ordinance that would allow property owners to replace lawns with native plant gardens without being cited or fined.