



**Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting
CA Maintenance Facility 9450 Gerwig Lane
7:00 pm July 13' 2016**

Attendance

John McCoy, Brian England, Jeremy Scharfenberg, Rhoda, Deborah, Alan Pflugrad, Elaine, Bob Grossman, Bob Moynihan

Approval of Agenda

Approved

Approval of Meeting Minutes

2 min Approved

Resident Speak-out

2 min

Elaine says thanks for being so welcoming me; she can't quit us.

Manager's Report:

10 min

Projects: working on a severe erosion/flooding problem behind Phantom Ct in Harper's Choice. Installing a water conveyence system from the court above Phantom to Beatrice Way to alleviate residential flooding problem, as well as getting 30,000 gallons of flooding storage. Deborah asks what caused the problem? Ans: Three sources: resident homes (drives, pathways, saturated lawns), pathway system discharging along sides, plus drainage from uphill retention areas- this flooding has been going on for four decades. Trying to use bigger rocks on pathsides instead of gravel, to avoid wash-outs. Money came from board, part of watershed projects.

Started construction on stream restoration at Harper's Glen- will be underway for ~45 days.

Outreach: Danielle ran mosquito workshops in River Hill, Oakland Mills, Long Reach, Hickory Ridge & King's Contrivance. Residence get freaked out about mosquitos and want CA to drain everything. Education to demonstrate to folks that it's the little puddles in your back yard that are the problem, not the larger ponds. County will be doing surveillance around homes of people who actually have Zika, may lead to spraying. Danielle was showing people how to build homemade mosquito traps. John will send pdf of poster explaining Mosquito traps etc.

Deborah asks, could Danielle's presentation be recorded and put up on YouTube, etc. John's video on mulch etc. got 10,000 hits on YouTube.

Danielle & John are working middle school kids; making a presentation at CA's Camp Make-A-Difference. Demo: conductivity meter in bucket of lake water, then do it again after dumping in ice-melt. The kids liked it, and seemed to be getting the point about the need to keep the environment healthy for fish and other creatures.

UMD asked John to host a Romanian delegation, show them rain gardens, bioretention, etc. Brought money & science folks from Romanian gov't. MDNR has given an award for \$520,000 for reimbursement of br's and raingardens. Raingarden program can (as of two months from now) be installed in Little Patuxent, so all Columbia villages.

Rain garden stats: 230 completed as of May 1. 18 built in May & June- 248 total. John will send out village breakdown to the list. Note that some residences have two.

Plant growth in Dannon Garth. Tried a dose of algicide (after getting permit). Waternet was covering two-thirds of pond.

Election of Officers

10 min

New officers elected by acclamation:

Dan: Chair

Rhoda: Vice Chair

Deborah: Secretary

Addling Goose Eggs

Standing problem with resident goose population, who turn grass and riparian material and turn it into nutrients. Second attempt at riparian bench at Dannon Garth was killed by geese. Need to reduce the problem. So the plan is to get a federal permit to addle (by painting with oil) eggs in their nests. Reston has had success with this. Only on CA property. Residents should fill out their own permits, then John will addle them. John is asking for WAC endorsement.

Motion: that WAC recommend to the CA board that they assign CA staff to request a permit to addle goose eggs on CA property and assign staff to perform this task wherever eggs are found on CA property. The goal should be to significantly reduce resident goose population and corresponding damage to the quality of the ponds and lakes and surrounding environment and reduce the cost of goose management by other means.

Approved

Evaluate the advantages of combining open space and watershed under one umbrella

15 min

Rhoda had a conversation about this with Andrew Stack. Stack has heard that there's a move to have a separate open space committee. He thinks that's a waste, but he'd be very open to the WAC reconfiguring itself into an open space committee as well.

Rhoda *moves* that we propose to the CA board that our charter be amended to extend our scope to open space management issues generally.

Jeremy suggests that a sustainability umbrella might make a lot of sense, but we'd need to think carefully about our goals and scope and membership.

Motion tabled Let's invite Jane Dembner to attend the next meeting at get her input.

CA Request: Review/update goals

15 min

We need to get a list of goals for fiscal 2017 to the CA board

The following list was *approved*.

1. Continue to support and advise the CA watershed manager and other CA staff in their duties with regard to watershed management.
2. Continue to share notes, support and advise each other in our activities supporting the CA villages to better manage watershed issues. Explore the possibility of convening a meeting of CA Village outdoor and watershed committees to share best practices.
3. Continue to represent the concerns of the villages with regard to watershed issues to the CA.
4. Make recommendation to the CA board to that will lead to the development of a robust watershed monitoring program to measure the effectiveness of watershed improvement investments.
5. Explore potential modifications to the role of the WAC that would expand its domain to additional environmental quality and sustainability topics.

John will transmit these to goals to Sherry Fanaroff, and thence to the CA Board.

Village Reports/Input:

Brian-Hickory Ridge

No report.

Rhoda- Wilde Lake

CARES committee want to get together a plan to have a meeting with speakers modeled after event with Don Tsusaki a couple of years ago. Trying to get some money from the county for street trees. Deborah suggests going to Patricia Valentine, county officials.

Ann- Owen Brown

Not present

Deborah- (at large and HR)

HR WAC is on summer hiatus. Will meet again in August, hoping to have 3 new members- will bring total up to 6 enthusiastic members

Alan- Kings Contrivance

Planning an event, piggybacking on Walk with Ned. Plan to set up a bunch of tables with raffles, Ned will walk folks by problem spots, streams, good places, bad places, Sean will be there to tout CA open space stuff. Alan's been working hard to get stuff done with Watershed Stewards, despite somewhat disengaged village board. Got a bunch of good county response to a big retaining pond washout problem. Great mosquito program with Danielle.

Tim- Long Reach

Dan- Oakland Mills

Not much going on.

Jeremy- Harper's Choice

Report to village board going out in August.

Bob M - Town Center

Met with village board to they'd know his face. A pleasant meeting

Bob G - Dorsey Hall

Big outdoor event with Ned Tillamn cancelled due to weekend rain. Had a raingarden tour with 8/9 people led by John, who got a CA van. John's gotten a bunch of raingarden requests from Dorsey Hall. Good cleanup day.

New discussion: Sewage line repair at Dobbin & Oakland Mills- DPW found a terra cotta sanitary sewage line, which will have to be replaced. They were still building those in the sixties, seriously??

Next Meeting: September 14th

John will invite Jan Clark & Jane Dembner to this meeting.