

Friends of Accotink Creek Leadership Town Meeting

Mar 19, 2012

Next Meeting: April 16, 2012 location to be announced. (Third Monday of each month)

Present:

Dirck Harris

Roger Diedrich

Suzy Foster

Olivier Giron

Robert Greenberg

Liz Kirchner

Kris Unger

Ted Welsh

Philip Latasa

Brian Parr

Bill Nell Welcome Bill!

Dan Schwartz guest speaker

Subjects Discussed –

TAFIE

Dan Schwartz of Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District explained the Trash Assessment for Improved Environments (TAFIE) program, designed to meet EPA requirements for renewal of the county's MS-4 stormwater discharge permit. TAFIE involves volunteers counting, categorizing, and hopefully collecting, all the trash items along the same 100-foot by 10-foot stretch of streambank twice per year.

There was general discussion of the ease or difficulty of incorporating TAFIE into our twice-annual cleanups. Liz and Brian will organize the first Accotink TAFIE count at their stream monitoring site. We will then evaluate the experience and see where we can go from there.

Spring Cleanup

Groups from GMU, NVCC, and Edison HS have indicated they will participate. Otherwise, we only have signups from a few individuals.

Ted may adopt a cleanup site as his own, with plans to engage service clubs, scouts, etc.

Kris suggested a display of tear-off strips to display at cleanups as a leadership recruitment tool.

Dan offered use of NVSWCD templates for cleanup signage.

Suzy circulated a sheet for core members to register to co-lead cleanup sites. Philip will follow up with those who signed up.

April 7: Olivier & Ted
April 14: Olivier
April 21: Olivier, Suzy, Robert, & Roger
April 28: Liz & Brian, Roger (maybe)
Other co-leaders are also welcome.

Watershed Forum/Summit/Event

Karen/NVCC will partner with the Fairfax County Restoration Project to put together the watershed forum and environmental film festival. FACC will support this project by publicizing and participating in the events

Lake Accotink Park Projects

Philip will draft the letter urging the Park Authority to minimize the impact of planned projects and employ permeable paving. Kris and Liz will finalize.

Mantua Meeting

Danielle Wynn of Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services made a presentation to the Mantua community on stormwater issues, Accotink TMDL's, and the Accotink Creek Watershed Plan. Roger will place an article about the meeting in the Mantua newsletter. Danielle proposed that a project for the neighborhood could be the retrofit of the neglected detention ponds at Mantua Elementary. Suzy, Danielle, and Roger, will reach out to Elaine Tholen, school environmental coordinator, and try to get PTA/school interest before the project can go forward.

Paul Hughes presented a proposal to a private foundation for a project to study and implement the conversion of impervious driveways to a pervious surface. In his proposal he suggests that an incentive of \$500 to \$1000 would be a good draw for those considering this improvement to act now, and that there might be an economy of scale if several property owners act as a group.

Other discussion

Camelot community association has secured a grant to install a native plant sponge garden in the median of King Arthur Road at Little River Turnpike. Dan suggested Ellen Vogel of VDOT would be a useful source of assistance.

Suzy reported the Annandale Lions are interested in a tree planting project. Americana Park is a possible location, but the power lines would restrict the height of any plantings.

Ted reported the recent anti-ivy seminar offered little of interest for FACC.
