

Friends of Accotink Creek Leadership Town Meeting

April 16, 2012

Next Meeting: May 21, 2012 location to be announced. (Third Monday of each month)

Present:

Dirck Harris

Kris Unger

Ted Welsh

Philip Latasa

Flint Webb

Bill Nell

Judy Fraser Welcome, Judy!

Doug Fraser Welcome, Doug!

Subjects Discussed –

Spring Cleanup

Flint reported he attended the cleanup of Southside Park in Vienna and hopes the organizer, Rick Ayers may become active with FACC

Philip will be doing an unscheduled cleanup at the Little river Turnpike site to accommodate a group of NVCC students who publicized the wrong date.

Olivier will be having a cleanup of an illegal dumpsite outside our watershed on April 20, with the GMU environmental group and Interns for the Environment. The Voice of America will be filming. The VOA interview with Olivier in DC last week was somewhat of a disappointment when we found the dump site had been cleaned up.

There was discussion of whether the cleanups are having any success in achieving their most important goals of education and recruitment. Philip pondered the possibility of doing only one hour of cleanup, preceded by one hour of education.

Ted suggested including invasive species ID at cleanup sites.

Bill added the idea of including tree ID.

Judy offered to let the Fairfax City council know about our cleanup efforts, when photos are available.

Flint will attend the Woodburn Road cleanup, after attending an invasive removal workday with our allies friends of Nottoway Park, at the top end of the watershed.

Ted suggested the possibility of quick response teams to do custom cleanups on dates convenient to do custom cleanups on dates convenient to groups.

Co-leaders signed up for the remaining cleanup weekends:

April 21: Olivier, Suzy, Robert, Flint & Roger

April 28: Liz & Brian, Roger (maybe)

Other co-leaders are also welcome.

Rotary Club

Ted is discussing possible cooperation with the Rotary Club, which is interested in supporting a local environmental project, perhaps purchasing monitoring equipment, perhaps stream restoration, possibly with financial support in the \$1000 - \$3500 range.

Bill pointed out how expensive stream restoration can be, but offered the alternative of a bioretention project, possibly using excess soil from an upcoming sewer project in his neighborhood.

Ted mentioned the Mayor of Vienna is a Rotary member, offering new possibilities for action in the Vienna area of the Accotink watershed.

Watershed Forum/Summit/Event

Karen/NVCC is proceeding with planning.

Lake Accotink Park Projects

Kris has the draft letter and will proceed to finalize.

Mosquito Control

Judy will prepare information on alternatives to chemical pesticide control of mosquitos. There was discussion of methods such as vegetable oil, dunks, and CO2 generators (ineffective).

Organization

There was a discussion of the advantages of becoming a 501c organization, but that seems to be on hold for the moment. Judy inquired about the possibility of joining a larger organization and Philip noted that had been considered in the past, but no good fit seemed to present itself.

Flint expressed the goal of helping the county to do the watershed plan, perhaps adopting specific projects and persuading businesses to join the solution.

Other discussion

Kris will lead a hike along the Daniels Run tributary as part of the 2 June Fairfax City Trails Day.

Ted suggested an FACC display could circulate among public libraries.

Bill offered the idea of FACC theme months with matching activities, such as Bioretention Month, RPA Month, Art Month, Pervious Paving Month, TMDL Month, Impaired Waters Month, etc. Bill will send his ideas to Kris and Kris will write them up
