

Minutes
CA Watershed Advisory Committee
January 5, 2010
Final

The regular meeting of the Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC) was called to order on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 at 7:05pm in the Board Room at Columbia Association Headquarters. In attendance were Members Robert Schweinfurth (Chair), Brian England (Vice Chair), Jeff Campbell, Mark Charles (7:25pm), Sylvia Huestis, Jane Dembner, Tom Frederick, and Debbie Cappuccitti (7:15pm). Also in attendance for Columbia Association was Steve Sattler.

Approval of Agenda

Agenda was approved by a unanimous vote (6-0-0), after Greenfest Discussion and Hopewell Reforestation Update were added to Other Business.

Approval of December 1, 2009 Minutes

Minutes passed without change by a vote of 5-0-2. Dembner and Cappuccitti abstained. Charles not present at time of vote.

Watershed Policy and Charter

Sattler reported both documents were approved, without change, at the CA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting held on December 22. Neither document was discussed at the BOD meeting, as it was listed on the BOD agenda under Consent, and was approved when the vote on the BOD agenda passed. Sattler had also reported one goal on the Charter had been added back by the ERC, prior to it being sent to the BOD. The goal added was:

- 3) To recommend methods for monitoring progress of the plan/policy implementation.

Village Board Communications

It was reported there were no new presentations to Village Boards over the past thirty days. A number of WAC members communicated dates when their Village newsletters were to be sent out. Sattler stated it was most important for WAC members to reserve space in their Village communication during March to support the recruitment of Volunteers, which was when the campaign would be launched.

CA Budget Testimony

Sattler reported there were two upcoming public budget sessions – Wednesday, January 13 and Wednesday, January 27.

WAC discussion points for reasons to hire a watershed manager when communicating with CA Board members were outlined including: 1) Watershed management plan is more than projects; 2) Includes volunteer efforts, and education to change resident's lifestyles; 3) Seeking grants; 4) Managing new (June/July 2010) and existing MS4 permits; and 5) Realizing financial savings from dredging.

Community Engagement Group

The Volunteer Recruitment initiative was discussed and included:

- 1) Those interested would be directed to the CA web site
- 2) The CA web site would have a new Volunteer page
- 3) Specific Volunteer events would be listed on the site, which was deemed important to the recruitment campaign
- 4) Goals for volunteers included engagement in events, education and participation in monitoring
- 5) Group name of "Friends of Columbia Watershed Volunteers" was discussed
- 6) 1st Meeting of Volunteers could be held in April, but may be better to wait until after initial volunteer watershed activities in April and beyond are completed
- 7) Additional website volunteer activities could be to provide pictures of watershed issues

Other Business

Hopewell Reforestation Update – Sattler read an update written by Sean Harbaugh, which was deemed a big success. 53 Volunteers participated, which included a large number from Centennial and Wilde Lake High Schools. Over 200 trees were planted.

Greenfest – This event was discussed and WAC members agreed to participate in a booth this year, as it had at last year's event. Greenfest will be held on April 17th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Reforestation Events – Next event being organized by Jan Clark of CA staff in April.

Meeting Adjourned – 9:15pm

Future Agenda Items

- Create Volunteer Calendar of Events
- Community Engagement Group
- CA Budget Testimony
- Village Reports

Action Items

- Action – Create Minutes from the WAC December 22 meeting (pre-BOD meeting)
- Action – Sattler to communicate addition made by ERC to WAC Charter
- Action – Schweinfurth to email five points for WAC members to communicate to their Boards