

MEETING MINUTES

8/11/08 @ Lexington Park Library room "A"

ATTENDEES: Joe Anderson – facilitator

Chris Tanner	SM College
Dudley Lindsey	Potomac River Association
Larry Hartwick	SM Co Public Schools
Steve King	Metcomm
Carrie Decker	MDNR
Sue Veith	SM Co LUGM
Jon Grimm	Loiederman Soltesz Associates (LSA)
Joe Anderson	SMRWA/CSC
Bruce Young	SM SCD
Steve Bernard	SMRWA
Joanne Throwe	UMD/ Environmental Finance Center (EFC)
Raja Veeramachaneni	MSHA

FROM: Jon Grimm LSA

DATE: August 25, 2008

SUBJECT: St. Mary's River Watershed
Restoration Action Strategy:
Meeting #3

I. Call to Order – Joe Anderson called the meeting to order at about 10:10 am and reviewed meeting procedures (see minutes 7/14/08)

II. There were no additions or deletions to the agenda

III. Mr. Raja Veeramachaneni, RE: Green Highway Partnership

Mr. Veeramachaneni gave an informative presentation on the MSHA program:

- **Voluntary**
 - i. Collaborative
 - ii. Public/Private Partnership
 - iii. Promote innovation and stewardship
 - iv. Incentives for streamlining process
- **Why** -- Must be done
- **Green (Environment) & Gray (Transportation)**
 - i. National Environmental Policy Act gave way to environmental stewardship

and now we have “Green Hwys”

- **Green Hwys: “Better than Before”**
 - i. Focus
 - Watershed based SWM and Mitigation
 - Conservation and Ecosystem Mgmt. where the Ecosystem is the “DRIVER”, pun intended
 - Examines Recycling and Reuse

- **Conventional Environmental Approach Is Not Best Practices**
 - i. Advantage: Regulatory, standard, controls time and cost
 - ii. Disadvantage: Not environmental recovery, not improvements
 - iii. Mitigation not necessarily sustainable
 - iv. Not practical in meeting Total Maximum Daily Loads

- **Green Hwys: Uses a Watershed Approach**
 - i. Improve Watersheds, not just prevent damage
 - ii. Deliver transportation needs and watershed improvements
 - iii. Multiple beneficiaries – “Better Than Before”

Mr. Veeramachaneni examined several **CASE STUDIES:**

- Sawmill Creek
 - 1. Reintroduced nine (9) species of fish with AA Co., DNR, MSHA

- Woodrow Wilson Bridge
 - 1. Anacostia River fish passages; SAV

- Inter-County Connector
 - 1. Separate budget established for environmental stewardship

- US 301 Waldorf Bypass
 - 1. Environmental Stewardship (ES) incorporated into purpose and need of project
 - 2. Green Infrastructure – networks are critical

Opportunities for Enhancement / Improvement

1. Stream Restoration
2. Land Use Controls
3. Impervious Coverage
4. SWM Conversional
5. LID (low impact development)
6. Reforestation
7. Erosion Control / Protection
8. Fish Passage

9. Flood Control (floodplain mgmt.)
10. Infiltration
11. Wetland Creation (ecosystem, network)
12. Historic Structure Improvements
13. Sidewalks

Partnership Opportunities

1. Transportation Enhancement Program
 - o 50% matching program, 20% cash match
2. Joint Mitigation Projects
3. Watershed Plans Direct All Investment (“not ones sitting on the shelf”)

Recycling & Reuse

1. MSHA Business Plan Goal
2. Quality Product; Environmentally Safe

Mr. Veeramachaneni noted that the MD 237 Chancellor’s Run Road project getting underway now predates the Green Hwy. Movement.

The group thanked Mr. Veeramachaneni for a most informative presentation.

IV. Carrie Decker (MDE) [Joanne Throwe, UMD Env. Finance Center (merged with National Center for Smart Growth)]

1. MDNR, MDE, MDA – “2010 Trust Fund” application for communities (non-point source nutrient reduction)
2. Pilot communities sought (Aug 29th deadline 2008)
3. What can we do for competitive funding for 2009? [e.g., Chester River – Agriculture projects; septic repairs]
4. Must establish priorities for the watershed [UMD EFC can help “pump out the results”]
5. Involvement of County government and continuity are critical to project success [like w/TEP (transportation environment program) of MSHA can benefit]
6. End of October/November “Event” [to assist with project funding ideas]

- August 18th meeting with State agencies to determine next steps
- Bruce Young referred to equine, Amish/Mennonite and St. George’s Island Living Shoreline grant proposals

V. Sue Veith reviewed tasked items [asked for all to deliver]

1. Delivery received today from SCD for mining operations and from MetCom (public sewer in watershed)
2. WRAS Characterization Report Outline (handout) reviewed

- a. Natural resources
- b. Living resources
- c. Cultural resources (need St. Mary’s City Rep – Joe Anderson to contact Henry Miller)
- d. LUGM has all infrastructure information with DPWT, Health, MetCom
- e. MetCom information distributed by Steve King (September meeting on overall MetCom facilities plan)
- f. All requested to peruse items and contribute
- g. Bob Paul to write water quality piece

VI. So Md Higher Education Center Community Meeting

September 3, 2008 6 – 8 pm

- Joe Anderson, Bob Paul, Sue Veith to attend
- Bob Lewis/ Bob Paul to do presentations
- Still need volunteers to assist in breakout sessions and meet, greet, set up
- WRAS outline to be reviewed; seek community input on issues, problems, and “perceptions” of problems
- Steve Bernard asked if there is enough commonality between Breton Bay and SM River as to inform SMR?

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Next meeting: Monday, September 8, 2008 10 a.m. at LUGM

Respectfully submitted:

Jon R. Grimm

“The above constitutes the writer’s understanding of the events and of any agreements that were made during the meeting. Should any of the attendees wish to offer comments or propose corrections, it is requested that these be submitted in writing, to the undersigned, within five days of the date of these minutes.”

cc: Attendees