

Montgomery County - Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water-quality-advisory-group.html>

September 13, 2021 (7:00 - 8:30 pm) – DRAFT Minutes

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Staff Liaison Miranda Reid, DEP (miranda.reid@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Ken Bawer, Public-at-Large	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kate Bennett, DEP
Keith Brooks, Public-at-Large	X		
Bob Buglass, Public Agency, WSSC	X		
Michael Carmel, Public-at-Large		X	
Andrew Der, Public-at-Large		X	
El Hadji Fall, Academic/Scientific		X	
Michael McAvey, Public-at-Large	X		
Pamela Rathbone, Co-Chair, Public-at-Large	X		
Miranda Reid, DEP	X		
Tracy Rouleau, Co-Chair, Academic/Scientific	X		
Linda Silversmith, Public-at-Large	X		
Tim Stemann, Business	X		
Amy Stevens, Public Agency, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski, Public Agency, MNCPPC		X	
Allison Wright, Environmental	x		
Agenda Item	Major Points		

I. Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
II. Reading and approval of the minutes.	Minutes for June were approved. Minutes will be available on the WQAG webpage.
III. New Business.	<p><u>1. Rescheduling the Falls Reach Stream Restoration Field Trip</u> Some folks made it - Amy discussed and answered questions for the group that stayed - 15 minutes or so - none of the project managers from DEP were there Ken noted that several of group went down to the wet pond - joined by a community HOA member - who was quite familiar with the project Keith said the neighbor had a lot of back and forth about what was involved and requests Evidently a lot of people got burned out because the process took so long and interest level waned. Tracy...interesting point...how to keep people involved in those discussions... Tracy suggested to meet in October instead. Linda mentioned it might be too dark and Amy suggested that we should we start at 5 or schedule for the weekend. Try for the project manager, see what their schedule is, and then poll the group. DEP will try to nail that down in the next week or so.</p> <p><u>2. Report on stream restoration sub-group discussion and activities</u> Discussion so far - September 1 - Tracy, Amy, Ken, Keith, Pamela attendees Still figuring out how to deal with what options to present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present recommendations with some consensus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The overall group will vote on those issues • For issues that there is no consensus - present both options and arguments - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have a discussion with the group • Any issue that gets 51% approval moves it forward - • But if ALL agree, maybe we really articulate that - • Keith raises the question of how much is “strongly recommend” • Goal for presentation: DECEMBER <p>Other topic was to discuss set or categories or topics that each issue breaks down into - come up with the discussion points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance/Evaluation of stream restoration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does the end result meet the goals? Or justify it? • Types of projects where stream restoration may be appropriate • Communication of the project • Educational component? • Alternatives to stream restoration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we engage PRIVATE landowners about impervious surfaces • What other ideas might solve SWM problems? • Other jurisdictions to learn from? <p>Are there other people that WQAG MUST hear from on this topic?</p> <p>Linda raised the question: should we include outside “counsel” (stormwater partners?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perhaps... <p>Mike M: sierra club? River guides (?) - do they have info -</p> <p>Tracy: most of those people are part of stormwater partners</p> <p>Both DEP and MDE have good websites that explain and explore the stream restoration process...</p> <p>AMY: webinars on stream restoration coming - zoom meetings. Announcement will be shared with stormwater partners.</p> <p>Recently there was a brew ha ha about the restorations in the COG...council people...helpful to learn from other group.</p> <p>Amy will send some updates as it gets nailed down...</p> <p><u>3. Election of Co-Chairs</u></p> <p>Tracy and Pamela currently serve</p> <p>When is election and when do they start?</p> <p>Pamela would like to step down -</p> <p>Tracy - will stay with it</p> <p>Anyone else interested in being co-chair?</p> <p>REQUEST will be put out to the full group (as we are missing a chunk of people)</p> <p>We will table that for now...</p> <p>For the next year...only volunteer so far is Tracy, but we will wait till the November meeting to see if anyone else will step up...</p> <p>And anyone who wants to join - will ask for requests from the greater group...</p>
<p>IV. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>V. Reports of Special Committees.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>VI. Special Orders.</p>	<p>None at this time</p>

<p>VII. Unfinished Business and General Orders.</p>	<p>Discussion on County Reopening – WQAG meeting options moving forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous discussion - October and April in person, other meetings virtual • Other boards are having the same discussion • Most of the others are not together in person • Let’s meet in October, and then see if in April we want to meet in person - wait till then to decide - • Do we want to do a tour as part of the meeting in April? • It is a green building (LEED), so finding someone to provide a tour may be nice 	
<p>VIII. Adjournment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm. • The next meeting is set for October 18, 2021 – Stream Restoration Trip. • Discussion topics for November: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Travilah quarry – possible reservoir? ○ Discussion on New York – how they have bought up land to prevent development/preserve reservoir watershed • Note taker – Andrew? 	
<p>Action Item Registry</p>		
<p>List of Priority Topics</p>		
<p>Rank</p>	<p>Subject Area</p>	<p>Topic</p>
<p>1</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>Understanding how climate change impacts water quality in Montgomery County</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Stormwater</p>	<p>Meeting on trash – (February/March) – DEP/Alice Ferguson Foundation</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Stormwater</p>	<p>Twice a year updates from Stormwater Partners Stream Restoration Working Group</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Wastewater</p>	<p>WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation, sewage overflows</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Stormwater</p>	<p>Quantitative approaches to stormwater management (MS4, BMPs)</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Stormwater</p>	<p>RainScapes Update – 2022</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Stormwater</p>	<p>Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plan transparency</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>DOT Street Tree Policy</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report & water related issues</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Wastewater</p>	<p>Blue Plains and Seneca Treatment Plants Tours (July field trip)</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>Educational Outreach – Other Organizations</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>Community gardening</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>Continue discussions on communicating the benefits of improved water quality</p>

14	Other	Communications update from DEP
15	Wastewater	Replacing all public urinals in Montgomery county with waterless urinals
16	Parks	MNCPPC topics (invasive species)

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