

Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting Minutes, June 11, 2012 FINAL

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Trudi Bick, public-at-large	X		Lori Lilly, Center for Watershed Protection (CWP)
Beth Forbes, public-at-large	X		
Erica Goldman, scientific/academic		X	
Paul Hlavinka, public-at-large		X	
Daphne Pee, public-at-large		X	
Annette Rosenblum, scientific/academic	X		
Scott Roser, business	X		
Fred Samadani, agricultural		X	
Danila Sheveiko, business	X		
Tanya Spano, environmental	X		
Cameron Tana, public-at-large	X		
Edgard Tellez-Morales, public-at-large	X		
Patrick Walsh, environmental		X	
Martin Chandler, WSSC	X		
Pam Parker, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski MNCPPC	X		
Agenda Item	Major Points		
7:00: Meeting opens	Because of concerns regarding lack of a quorum, issues requiring a vote were delayed to later in the meeting.		
7:10-8:45 Presentation on Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination by Lori Lilly of the Center for Watershed Protection (CWP)	<p>Lori Lilly of CWP gave a presentation regarding illicit discharge and detection of and elimination of contaminants (IDDE). Ms. Lily described CWP as a non-profit organization which provides technical assistance regarding IDDE to Federal, State, and local governments. Sources of IDDE include illegal dumping and cross connections, with sewage discharges being a significant urban problem. Using the Sligo Creek Watershed as an example, Ms. Lily described the techniques used, and difficulties encountered when evaluating watersheds. Abnormal vegetation and poor pool quality are qualitative indicators of potential contamination. CWP has developed a quantitative screening tool which looks for indicator bacteria typically associated with illegal discharges. Difficulties encountered include unidentified and unmapped discharge sources, and difficulty tracing sources because of a lack of cameras for sewer observation. Ms. Lily maintained that eliminating illegal discharges is a cost effective approach to nutrient management, with an estimated average cost of \$50,000/repair. The CWP supports community outreach and has participated in numerous speaking engagements. Ms. Lily noted that government initiatives have been deficient because illegal discharges are not addressed by MS4 permits or Consent Decrees, and the issue is not adequately addressed by the permit requirement guidance. Durham, NC, Santa Barbara, CA, and Monroe County, NY have undertaken similar evaluations in order to address public health issues and to satisfy TMDL requirements. The CWP has requested \$750,000 from</p>		

	<p>the National Fish and Wildlife Association to conduct further analysis of the IDDE issue, and has included a specific request for funding to assist poorer areas to address illegal discharges. The group discussed ways to involve the public in identifying illegal discharges including “adopt an outfall” programs, increased use of social media, and encouraging citizen reporting. Scott Roser asked if amnesty programs might be effective, Pam Parker said the county would not fund remedial activities, but would undertake enforcement actions. She also noted that earlier voluntary pollution prevention programs were not successful. Martin Chandler noted that the assessment phase of the WSSC’s trunk walk program was complete. Parker noted that the county had allocated \$200,000 for storm drain mapping with Sligo Creek being the first priority. The group again discussed the need for additional sewer cameras noting that each costs about \$80,000. Ms. Lilly’s presentation is available on the WQAG website at http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov.</p>
<p>8:45 – 9:00 Other business</p>	<p>Annette Rosenblum made a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 2012 meeting, Beth Forbes seconded the motion, and the group approved. Pam Parker provided relevant electronic links via email.</p> <p>Tanya Spano made a motion to adopt the June 2012 meeting agenda, and Cameron Tana seconded the motion, and the group approved.</p> <p>The group discussed the summer meeting schedule, and subsequent email communication resulted in the decision to not hold a meeting in August. The next meeting will be July 9.</p>
<p>9:00</p>	<p>Meeting adjournment</p>

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Trudi Bick, public-at-large	X		Jennifer St. John, MCDEP
Beth Forbes, public-at-large	X		
Erica Goldman, scientific/academic	X		
Paul Hlavinka, public-at-large	X		
Daphne Pee, public-at-large	X		
Annette Rosenblum, scientific/academic		X	
Scott Roser, business	X		
Fred Samadani, agricultural	X		
Danila Sheveiko, business	X		
Tanya Spano, environmental	X		
Cameron Tana, public-at-large	X		
Edgard Tellez-Morales, public-at-large		X	
Patrick Walsh, environmental			
Martin Chandler, WSSC	X		
Pam Parker, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski MNCPPC	X		
Agenda Item	Major Points		
7:05 PM Meeting opens	Patrick Walsh announced that there would be no meeting in August. The June 2012 meeting minutes were approved (Spano motion, Roser 2nd). July 2012 agenda were approved (Spano motion, Goldman 2 nd).		
	Paul Hlavinka noted the 30 day public comment period for the Chesapeake Bay Forest Restoration Plan. Erica Goldman agreed to remove the Corsica project from list of upcoming presentations. Patrick Walsh suggested the ICC Mitigation and Stewardship project as a possible presentation with Betsy Winecamp from Coastal Resources as a speaker.		
7:15 PM Presentation on Green Streets by Jennifer St. John of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (MCDEP)	Ms. St. John’s power point presentation is available at the WQAG website. Ms. St. John said the Green Streets program addresses the space between the curb and the sidewalk by incorporating low impact development (LID) projects designed to encourage water infiltration and discourage run-off. Ms. St. John provided a brief overview of storm water management. She explained projects are selected based upon the preference for treating water at the source, identification as part of a watershed study, and whenever possible, in conjunction with Department of Transportation Operation and Maintenance activities. Practices include: rain gardens, bio retention gardens, tree box filters, pervious sidewalks and pavers, curb extensions, and grass bio swales. Technical considerations include soil infiltration rates, subsurface limiting layers, plant selection, design capacity, maintenance, and cost of removing existing impervious surfaces. Community outreach has included public meetings, field walks, web site, and numerous mailings. Community response is generally positive, although there have been concerns regarding impacts on driveways, parking, and garbage collection. MCDEP has responsibility for maintenance of all projects, including DOT projects. Projects are limited to public property. The County can provide \$5000 for institutions and		

	<p>\$1200 for residential property. While exact figures for O&M costs are not available, Ms. St. John noted that as the number of projects increases, O&M has become more efficient. Danila Sheveiko asked about the cost comparison between LID and conventional options, with Ms. St. John noting that it was difficult to quantify. Erica Goldman inquired about metrics for measuring effectiveness. Ms. St. John noted that there is a monitoring program which considers a number of parameters and evaluates the cumulative impact on the bio community. Ms. St. John said that the Green Streets program hopes to train citizen volunteers to act as watershed keepers and community speakers.</p>
<p>8:25 PM Presentation on Climate Change Programs by Tanya Spano, Council of Governments (COG)</p>	<p>Ms. Spano provided an overview of COG’s recent presentation of climate change and its impact on local jurisdictions, particularly as it relates to surface water. COG’s position is that climate change is occurring with trends being documented, and that planning assumptions may need to be modified for design of future projects. COG recognized that the mid-Atlantic states experience complex meteorological conditions making weather prediction more complicated than other areas. Sea level is variable globally and local jurisdictions will need to adjust the changes in “normal” parameters. Flooding of the Potomac River results from downstream flow combined with tidal surge from the Chesapeake Bay. Ms. Spano said that flood plain mapping is controversial because of insurance and property rights considerations, noting that insurance companies have been reluctant to share data. COG is involved with the development of the National Climate Assessments Report due to be completed in 2013.</p>
<p>9:00 PM</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned.</p>

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Trudi Bick, public-at-large	X		
Beth Forbes, public-at-large	X		
Erica Goldman, scientific/academic	X		
Paul Hlavinka, public-at-large	X		
Daphne Pee, public-at-large	X		
Annette Rosenblum, scientific/academic		X	
Scott Roser, business		X	
Fred Samadani, agricultural	X		
Danila Sheveiko, business	X		
Tanya Spano, environmental		X	
Cameron Tana, public-at-large	X		
Edgard Tellez-Morales, public-at-large	X		
Patrick Walsh, environmental	X		
Martin Chandler, WSSC	X		
Pam Parker, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski MNCPPC	X		

Agenda Item	Major Points
7:00 PM Meeting opens	Patrick Walsh started the meeting by proposing structural changes to future WQAG meetings. Specifically, he suggested that each meeting include a brief summary of activities by one of the subcommittees. Members said that out of consideration for invited guest's time, they should present first. Paul Hlavinka asked what types of input the County Executive sought from the WQAG. The CERB report was scheduled to be completed by early September 2012. The July WQAG meeting minutes were approved with minor changes. The September agenda was approved with the addition of a discussion of formulation of a nominating committee.
7:15 Storm Drain Art	Trudi Bick described a storm drain artistic painting project in Columbia, Mo., designed to heighten the public's awareness of where storm water goes and its impact on the environment. Tanya Spano suggested that the Strathmore Performing Arts Center might be a good resource for involving schools in a similar project in Montgomery County. The Glenstone Art Gallery which recently obtained approval to extend the sewer line might be a possible source of support, financial and otherwise. A presentation by the DOT regarding storm drains was suggested, with the Montrose Crossing speaker identified as very knowledgeable.
7:30 Stream Designations	Paul Hlavinka discussed the designation of streams according to water quality parameters. Streams identified as meeting the Tier II water quality criteria receive special protection. Few streams in Maryland are considered to be Tier II, however, segments of two streams located in Montgomery County, the Patuxent River and the Goshen River, do meet the criteria. There are no Tier III streams in Maryland. Paul suggested looking for other possible Tier II stream segments or new Tier III streams in Montgomery County. He noted that Virginia has many Tier III streams. Pam Parker said the County strategy is to protect streams with good water

	<p>quality. Mark Symborski and Pam Parker noted that Montgomery County water quality parameters are different than, but comparable to State standards. Annette Rosenblum asked if the discharge permits associated with Tier I and II streams are different. According to Paul and Scott Rosen they are with minimum exemptions being lower. Tanya Spano said it was important to establish what mechanisms are in place to identify and protect at risk stream sections. Erica Goodman noted that it is more cost-effective to protect a stream than to restore it. Patrick Walsh suggested either Meo Curtis or Pam Parker provide a presentation on the state of Tier II streams.</p>
8:15 Montgomery County Outreach	<p>Daphne Pee expressed frustration regarding the excessive amount of information on a Metro bus Rainscapes advertisement which made it almost impossible to read. Daphne was also disappointed by a training session for volunteers for the County's storm water speakers and ambassadors program. She said that the information was too technical for the age of the volunteers (mostly young teens). A recommendation was made to invite a representative of the DEP Outreach staff to provide a presentation to the WQAG.</p>
8:30 Future Speakers	<p>See Table A</p>
8:45 Miscellaneous	<p>Paul Hlavinka encouraged members to attend the Forecasting Storm Water Issues Forum to be held on October 18, 2012 in Rockville. Tanya Spano noted that the District is negotiating with the Department of Justice to reopen the Consent Decree to include ESD to reduce storm water run-off. Beth Forbes attended the County's Ethics and Open Meeting training course.</p>
9:00 Meeting adjourned	<p>Next meeting October 15, 2012</p>

Table A. Future Meetings as of September 2012- Speakers and Topics

Speaker/Affiliation	Subject	WQAG Coordinator	Date
Erica Goldman	Project 263	Erica	Oct
Tanya Spano	DC's Green Area Ratio	Tanya	TBD Tanya is checking
Mark Symborski	Zoning Code Re-write	Mark S.	Mark provided schedule to WQAG, public meetings are scheduled for the Fall
Betsy Weinkam, Coastal Resources	ICC environmental mitigation and stewardship projects	Patrick Walsh	TBD Patrick will contact Weinkam
Paul Hlavinka/Pam Parker	Update on Lake Whetstone dredge spoils	Paul	TBD
Pam Parker	Update on Water and Sewer Plan update	Pam	TBD Pam will identify speaker
Danila Sheveiko	Presentation on ESD	Danila	TBD
Pam Parker	WIP Phase II Update	Pam	TBD
Daphne Pee/Pam Parker	DEP Outreach efforts	Daphne	Dec