

Location: Farm & Home Center

Voting Members Present: Jay Snyder, Scott Hain, Cory Rathman, Marylou Barton, Kent Gardner, Trudy Johnston

Non-Voting Steering Committee Members Present: Mike LaSala, Mary Gattis, Matt Kofroth, Kara Kalupson, Heather Valudes, Mark Johnson, Mike Kyle

Guests/Members: Andy Wishart, Tom Strubel (Public Works Director- Mt. Joy Borough)

Approval of Minutes- Marylou moved to accept minutes from Steering Committee meeting on October 3, 2012. Cory seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes recorded by: Angie Sowers

AGENDA ITEMS

Budget- Jay Snyder

- HANDOUTS- Jay provided Expense and Income Report- January through October 2012
- Jay asked group to provide him input on 2013 activities and expenses that would be associated with activities. He will then incorporate the requested information in the budget and report to CFLC.
 - His experience on non-profit boards is that it is a good idea to maintain a balance to enable LCCWC to function for a year or two.
 - Marylou provided view that as volunteers we shouldn't be asking our people to focus on fundraising as opposed to the technical work they are doing.
- Kent proposed idea of expending funds to provide lunch for upcoming Strategic Planning meeting
 - Marylou made the motion to expend \$15/person (plus tax and gratuity) for Strategic Planning meeting this fall in order to pull together information TetraTech is compiling and plan out how to complete plan. Cory seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Approximately 30 people will attend the fall meeting

Cleanwater 301- Seminar #3- Marylou Barton

- Approximately 60 participants are expected, plus some walk-ins
- Sourcewater protection is focus- presenters include Nate Merkel (PA Rural Water), Julie Kollar (WREN), Bob Ressler (mayor of Taure Hill), Mark Stivers (East Hempfield), Andy Gavin (SRBC), Herb Mattern (East Petersburg)
- Coverage by Lancaster newspaper; publicized by MaryLee Sauder

Future plans-

- Invite municipalities in EFC to present on their experiences to municipalities that did not participate
 - Kent and Marylou stated that for that presentation/seminar it would not be appropriate to charge for municipalities to attend because it is a service of the grant
- next year- seminar series similar to 2011 offering engineering credits and tie to municipalities' needs to meet MS4 reqs

Stormwater Authorities- Cory Rathman

- EFC update- this Friday meeting with Lanc Co Planning with focus on municipalities
 - Looking into the feasibility of recommending a storm water inventory for the municipalities
 - Municipalities don't have a clear understanding of age and state of their storm water infrastructure
 - Meeting with Mark Bowen to identify state POCs

- Next meeting is Nov 20
- Mary recommended that they connect with John Brosius (PMAA) and Steve Hann - regarding storm water authorities for municipalities
- Mike LaSala recommended sending the municipalities a similar update as to this that LCCWC is receiving
- Marylou reminded group that the bill to enable municipalities to add storm water authorities may come back up for consideration this coming year
 - Does LCCWC have/need to take a position on storm water authorities and storm water utilities
 - Cory's view is that the structure doesn't matter (general fund or authority, etc. could all work), but bottom line is that there needs to be a sustainable way to finance storm water
 - Scott pointed out that EFC is focused on identifying sustainable financing approaches, but that the approach may differ for each municipality
 - Mark Johnson discussed the difficulty that municipalities have with capital budgeting
 - Mary pointed out that BluePrints recommends that municipalities revisit/revise their capital budgets
 - Cory- capital budgets for storm water management needs will be addressed for the 6 municipalities participating in grant
 - Heather V- Chamber's advisory committee had little awareness of the storm water management/financing issues- pointed to need for education
 - Cory- part of EFC grant is to do outreach, just now discussing how to fulfill this requirement
 - Group generally agreed with main point that *sustainability* is the critical need for stormwater financing, and that structure is up to municipalities
 - Mary- consider government efficiency in developing a position; a large number of authorities may not be efficient
 - There is some support for authorities, but opposition is typically more vocal; Marylou noted that PSATS is opposed and that is why bill did not pass in 2012
 - Marylou mentioned recent newspaper article that discussed EFC effort and municipalities considering storm water authority which stated that they were considering a 'tax'; this was incorrect and a retraction was later published
 - Jay stated that the general structure of an 'authority' has been established because municipalities cannot govern outside their jurisdiction, but an authority (or COG) allows groups of municipalities to govern a larger area

LCCWC 2013- Kent Gardner

- Identification of main LCCWC initiatives
 - Cory and Mark provided input- focus on education- HANDOUT
 - finish ongoing projects
 - Marylou- suggested that LCCWC should act as conduit for watershed groups that are not 501(c)(3)- LCCWC has potential to get 5% administrative costs
 - Provided example of Little Conestoga NFWF that LCCWC has \$40k of administrative funding (administrative, billable funds) that could go towards Angie's administrative support but also the storm water committee, etc. if relevant to grant
 - Mark J- this appears to be an area where we can offer a service that would be funded and not volunteer

- Kent- another idea is to have a contractor on retainer that could focus on helping to write grants
- Jay suggested that we ask watershed groups if this is a service
 - Matt K pointed out that the Pequea Creek Watershed Alliance is the only group that doesn't have 501(c)(3) status and that administrative costs will not support a full-time person to assist with grant writing
- Mary G- project management, implementation, and administration is the big need and gap that exists
- *Group determined 2013 initiatives- 1) education and 2) continuing work on current projects and finishing those slated for completion in 2013*
- Cory- we need to figure out from PADEP what we need to do to fulfill municipalities MS4 reqs
 - Mike LaSala.- not PADEP but municipalities need to decide this
 - Gave example of Lanc Twp- Hamilton Park- Lt Conestoga- N, P, sed- 303d list-regulated MS4-Lanc Two identified problems that could continue to impair the River- residential lawns, commercial parking lots- and now Lanc Twp has to educate citizens on how to manage these impairments
 - Consortium could help with providing text that municipalities can use to educate citizens
 - Scott- there are many municipalities that don't even know they have to do this; there is much confusion over the requirements of MS4s
 - Kent- this may be a good topic for 'Water show'; also, each municipality has ability to have a local access channel if they are in a contract with Comcast- so LCCWC could have a seminar professionally taped that could be aired and used for outreach/education
 - Mary- Millersville U group may also be able to help with production of a video/show
- Growing Greener grants- next round possibly being moved up to late spring/early summer
 - Groups should have list of potential projects and then
 - Matt commented that more projects were submitted from Lanc Co than the rest of southeast PA

Consortium's role in implementation of Blueprints- Mary Gattis

- Mary- County has always had a focus on education and will continue to do so- now trying to figure out what education is needed
 - Recently had stormwater session given by Center for Watershed Protection
 - Would like to pull a group together a group that includes LCCWC to discuss coordinated seminars/training- to develop a coordinated training schedule for 2013- Mary offered to serve as interim chair of the Education committee to facilitate this
 - Mike LaSala- this would help with MS4 outreach compliance
 - Municipalities feel overwhelmed with all the trainings/seminars, etc.- information overload
 - Tom- this would be very beneficial- especially for people trying to get up to speed on MS4s
 - Jay made a motion for Mary to serve as interim chair of Education committee. Cory seconded. [Marylou had left meeting so voting quorum no longer existed. Motion tabled until next meeting.]
 - Mary asked who is interested in participating- Heather, Scott, Cory, Mike LaSala, Tom, Matt/Rebecca, Mike Kyle (represent educational needs of watershed groups)

- Will coordinate with Scott/Cory on educational needs of municipalities with respect of EFC efforts
- Blueprints adopted by County Commissioners in October
 - LCCWC noted as supporter for 3 activities (see Chapter 3 of Blueprints for more detailed descriptions)
 1. Forums for collaboration and communication to advance systems thinking
 - Plan calls for LCPC to convene first forum within 6 months
 - Form and agenda for forum all needs to be developed; would like representative from LCCWC to participate in this effort- identify key people to participate, agenda, key issues for discussion- focus is integrated water resource management- bring those involved in water resources together that wouldn't typically come in contact
 2. Peer network for water resource professionals
 - Purpose is to bridge knowledge gaps between design engineers and reviewers- reviewers have a lack of exposure to new ideas that designers may be more familiar knowledgeable of
 - Plan calls for county to identify host for network within 6 months
 - Is LCCWC interested in being considered as a host? County is also considering other alternatives. What resources and institutional capacity does LCCWC have to do this and what resources would be needed?
 - County would help to organize
 - May be a natural fit for stormwater committee
 - Kent asked if County would provide funding for someone from LCCWC to do this?
 - Mary- these details need to be worked through; County has no expectations
- (Sidebar) Jay asked to resolve tension in the air- whether LCCWC wants to work with County or not
 - Cory- it makes sense to work with County, but as a volunteer organization it is a concern that we don't commit to more than we can fulfill
 - Heather- it would be foolish to not support County in undertaking integrated water resource management- our support of other County organizations is for the betterment of the County; need to look at it holistically, but details need to be worked out
 - Mark- he personally thinks the group wants to have a good, working relationship with County and other groups; some of the friction is due to emotions that need to be overcome
 - It hasn't been clear where County responsibility starts/ends as opposed to that of LCCWC
 - Recognize that there are going to be some imperfections in relationship and that is OK
- 3. Stormwater management BMP demonstration sites
 - It has been identified that there should be demonstration sites throughout the county to familiarize residents/municipal staff/elected officials with various BMPs
 - Mary asked if LCCWC is interested in any of the following
 1. help identify sites that could be put into an inventory
 2. screen those sites to determine if they are warranted to be a demo site
 3. being applicant for funding to build new demonstration sites
 4. promote the demonstration sites on webpage

- This is not all-inclusive list, but areas that Mary thinks might fit with LCCWC mission

The LCPC/County understand that the LCCWC already has a very full plate but wanted to discuss what role, if any, LCCWC saw itself playing in any of these activities over the next 6 to 12 months.

LIMC Update- Mike LaSala (absent at this point)- update provided by Kent

- LIMC developed Good Housekeeping Manual- Kent suggested that a future educational seminar be targeted at this audience
- LIMC is working on Education and outreach manual
- 2 upcoming budgets will be presented soon- one is aggressive and includes a stormwater coordinator

NEW BUSINESS/UPDATES

Matt K- Thanked LCCWC for sponsoring Lanc/Leb Watershed Consortium

- About 75 attended
- Provided Jay with invoice- \$1333- Jay pointed this out that it was under the approved \$1500

Lt Conestoga NFWF- will provide Angie a factsheet for project

Meeting adjourned at 4:45

HANDOUTS-

1. 2013 LCCWC Initiatives- submitted to Kent prior to meeting
2. Thank you letter from Pequea Valley Watershed Association for LCCWC's sponsorship of recent mini-golf fundraiser

ACTION ITEMS

1. Matt K will provide Angie a factsheet for the Little Conestoga NFWF project to distribute to Steering Committee

Future Agenda Item

1. Coordination of Project Mapping (GIS)
2. Strategic Objectives, Mission/Vision, and Core Values
3. 2013 LCCWC Meeting Schedule

Calendar of Future Events

2012

December 5- LCCWC Steering Committee, 3-5 pm, Farm and Home Center