

Middle James Roundtable Steering Committee Meeting

MINUTES

OCTOBER 8, 2020

10AM-11:30 AM

VIRTUAL MEETING

MEETING CALLED BY	Lorne Field, Chairperson
TYPE OF MEETING	Steering Committee Meeting – 3 rd Quarter
NOTE TAKER	Sharon Conner, HCSWCD
ATTENDEES	Olivia Hall (Henrico), Betty McCracken (Monacan SWCD), Nat Draper (JRA), Jennifer Clark (RVA DPU), Kathleen Ogilvy (DOF), Lindy Durham (HSWCD), Lorne Field (Chesterfield)

Agenda topics

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

LORNE FIELD

DISCUSSION	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorne – Noted that presentations were very good. He would like more functionality in the polling platform. Webex was used as the virtual platform. Nat – Zoom has functionality for polling/questions, but you have to set them up ahead of time. Betty – Very good job. Even had an intern participate in the meeting. Kathleen – Felt it worked well under the circumstances. Olivia – Said that we had some new participants particularly from DEQ. Jenn – Said that presenters could not gauge feedback because they could not see faces. However, she felt Webex was a good as other virtual platforms. Discussed floodwall in Richmond. All modifications have to be permitted through Army Corps and DPU would then be in charge of modifications. The ideas that were put forward during the virtual meeting (planting/painting the wall) would be difficult for DPU to upkeep. <p>Annual Meeting Poll – Olivia has the results from the poll and will get out as soon as possible.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS	Everyone felt that it went well for a first time virtual format.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Release poll results from Annual Meeting.	Olivia Hall	Soon

NOMINEES FOR 2021

ALL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION	<p>Elections generally occur for new executive committee during 4th quarter steering committee meeting; Amber Ellis has left and will no longer be Vice-Chair</p> <p>Roles of Executive Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair – chief grant writer; works with financial agent (Henricopolis SWCD) Vice-Chair – assists Chair Secretary – take minutes Treasurer – Financial agent; everyone agreed that Henricopolis and Lindy Durham should remain treasurer since they already serve as the fiscal agent. <p>Executive committee needs to meet 5 times and we have only met once.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS	Elections will need to be held in November.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Will hold elections in November – 4 th quarter.	Lorne Field	11/2020

FINANCIALS

LINDY DURHAM

DISCUSSION	<p>Lindy reviewed financial report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No expenses were incurred for the Annual Meeting. Still have \$500 to reallocate. Expenses in 3rd quarter were for soil test vouchers and blue tubes. Henricopolis SWCD has seven rain barrels left to find home for. A rain barrel video was shot by HSWCD and edited by Maymont. Lindy will sent out link.
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	<p>Grant Activity Review:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fiscal Agent – Henricopolis SWCD provides book-keeping and quarterly reports 2. Website Hosting – Olivia Hall has been keeping website up to date 3. Steering Committee – on track; have hosted 3 quarterly meetings and 1 more in November 4. Executive Committee – need to get on track; held 1 and need 4 more meetings 5. Annual Meeting – completed 6. Newsletter – sent out weekly; 400 on outreach list 7. Soil Test Vouchers – budgeted for 300; halfway done for grant cycle 8. Blue Tube – Chesterfield’s are well used; new ones placed in Henrico; 5 tubes in RVA; over 3,300 views on Facebook and mostly positive 9. Cattle Exclusion signs – Currently have 1 sign and need 8 more signs; we are \$300 under-budget so Betty will order 1 more sign with funds 10. Storm Drain Stenciling – Kevin Orlosky will be the point of contact from Art on Wheels, which is changing its structure a bit. Stencils will be stored at the James River Association's warehouse for the time being. Chesterfield Paint Out Pollution will occur later this month with Lorne, JRA staff, and Kevin (but no volunteers). 11. Rain barrels – 2 have been distributed Seven pines and Davis Elementary); budgeted for 9; the problem is that the schools are closed; Nat offered to reach out to schools 12. Promotion of the Middle James River Consortium – Amber Ellis did overview at annual meeting so we have met that deliverable 	
CONCLUSIONS	There are unallocated grant funds that can go to projects.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Hold Executive Committee Meetings Order Additional Cattle Exclusion Signs Find other school venues for rain barrel installation	Lorne Field Betty McCracken Nat Draper will help Lindy	

ROUND ROBIN

DISCUSSION	<p>Lorne Field – Starting major Chesterfield County Falling Creek Reservoir. Dredging getting ready to start in next couple weeks to remove sediment; Chesterfield will also undertake 2 stream restorations; Completed a regenerative storm channel project (outfall retrofit on safety training center)</p> <p>Betty McCracken – Cover crop sign-up large in the Monacan SWCD with extensive planting by aerial methods; Held 1st virtual training for Randolph and Byrd Elementary Schools with Envirosapes model; also undertaking cattle exclusion verifications for DCR</p> <p>Sharon Conner – 1.2 million approved in cover crop cost-share; getting ready to host an adult urban BMP virtual series with help from partner non-profits; just hired 2 new conservation specialist to start 10-13-20 and 1-4-20.</p> <p>Lindy Durham – office still closed; teaching watersheds virtually and will be delivering an Envirothon event virtually; has completed a large VCAP project at All Saint Episcopal after 3 years</p> <p>Nat Draper – completed a video for high school students - “Model My Watershed” virtual learning; hosting “Connect to the James” Trips for adult education; had sturgeon trips this fall – 10 trips and all full with sighting of sturgeon along the way</p> <p>Jenn Clark – working on RVA green infrastructure plan; trying to get all departments to embrace green infrastructure including Parks; outreach for wastewater; reforestation grant; wastewater treatment plant has 30 days left on full run (3 events) to get operating certificate hopefully in 2020</p> <p>Kathleen Ogilvy – Powhatan trying to update land-use taxation plan; wants to increase forest canopy in county</p> <p>Olivia Hall – hosting a Virtual Energy fair – great links with videos; Henrico pushing sidewalks and bicycle lanes; stream restoration projects moving forward; look for job opening for a Water Quality Analyst; will conduct inlet stenciling in spring when hopefully it is easier to work with volunteers.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS	N/A	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Meeting Adjourned!