

Middle James Roundtable Steering and Executive Committee Meetings

MINUTES

JULY 14, 2021

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM STEERING
2:15 – 2:30 PM EXECUTIVE

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

MEETING CALLED BY	Olivia Hall, Chairperson (Henrico)
TYPE OF MEETING	Steering Committee Meeting
NOTE TAKER	Sharon Conner, HCSWCD
ATTENDEES	Lorne Field (Chesterfield), Betty McCracken (Monacan SWCD), Jennifer Clark (RVA DPU), Nancy Drumheller and Denise Gammon (CVWMA), Jennifer Palmore (DEQ), Kathleen Ogilvy (DOF)

Agenda topics

DEQ GRANT 2021 UPDATE

OLIVIA HALL

DISCUSSION	Reviewed 2021 Grant		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Blue Tubes – Olivia Hall has installed 2 in Henrico green spaces with 2 more to be installed; one box of blue tubes has been delivered to Lynchburg; Lorne has contacted Parks and Rec in Chesterfield for installation sites B. Stenciling – Henrico’s storm drain stenciling is currently being scheduled; Nancy Lily is having stencils made in a makers studio; no dates set for Chesterfield stenciling C. Raingardens – Plants will be ordered by Lorne field in the fall D. Soil Test Voucher – Henricopolis SWCD distributed 74 soil test vouchers. 50+ were redeemed. That’s a good return--about 67%.Website – Constant Contact - Olivia said to send her links to videos/education outreach for posting on website E. Rain barrels – Hanover-Caroline has held 2 workshops. Henricopolis delivered school rain barrels to Gayton Elementary, Ratcliffe Elementary and Varina High. 2 barrels remain. 		
CONCLUSIONS			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

FISCAL UPDATE

OLIVIA HALL

DISCUSSION	The 2020 grant reimbursement has been received as well as the payment for 2021 grant, 1 st quarter.		
	Emailed report from Lindy Durham – We have received reimbursement for Quarter 4 of the 2020 grant and Quarter 1 of the 2021 grant. I submitted the Quarter 2 grant report today.		
CONCLUSIONS			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING

OLIVIA HALL

DISCUSSION	Discussed virtual vs. in-person meeting		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Venue – On-line (decided by steering committee vote) B. Date – Thursday, October 14, 2021 C. Topic Selection – Kathleen recruited an urban forester, Laura Johnson, to speak on an application called “Every Tree Counts;” other topics include grease recycling, mussel restoration, a documentary series, and green infrastructure (confirmed) D. “Water Quality on the James River to the Bay” will be the title of the Annual Meeting E. Speaker gifts/giveaways would be nice. Please let Olivia know if you have something to provide. 		

CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Confirm speaker for Recycle the Grease Confirm speaker for Documentary Series on James Confirm speaker for Mussel Presentation Gifts for speakers	Olivia Hall Olivia Hall Olivia Hall Everyone	

ROUND ROBIN

DISCUSSION
<p>Nancy Drumheller – Announced that she is retiring September 1, 2021 and this will be her last meeting. Nancy thanked everyone for making it wonderful experience. She will be turning MJRT participation over to Denise Gammon.</p> <p>Denise Gammon– Education programs are in full swing including summer camps in Richmond and Goochland. Other camps have been planned. Denise has created 10 videos on YouTube with summer reading and craft opportunities for kids and will share those links.</p> <p>Lorne Field – The Pocoshock creek stream restoration project is approximately 50% complete. Progress is slower on the Falling Creek project dredging. Lorne will be starting some in-person rain barrel workshops in October. He is also doing a lot of social media outreach and video production aimed at household hazardous waste. The links for the videos are as follows: Environmental Engineering Department Overview</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFnYDXB-pEM&t=14s</p> <p>Illicit Discharges</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBQMICYD7ITI</p> <p>Car Washing</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4q5vljW568w</p> <p>Pet Waste</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9L88XvxUEU</p> <p>Fertilizer</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mn0sRMAGI-o</p> <p>Rain Barrel Workshops on Virginia This Morning</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9LLKTPdhrM</p> <p>Most of these are embedded in our stormwater outreach page. https://www.chesterfield.gov/301/Make-a-Difference</p> <p>Betty McCracken – The new fiscal year has brought with it a tremendous cost-share workload. For FY21, Monacan SWCD disbursed 90% of their cost-share funds, which is required by the DCR grant agreement. They will be hiring a new conservation specialist (4th FT staff member). Betty will set up at the Manakin Farmers Market on July 31 with general info about SWCD programs and provide children’s activities.</p> <p>Kathleen Ogilvy – DOF and VASWCD have combined their conservation camps into one event called the VA Natural Resources Academy. It is a virtual camp that is taking place right now. DOF is working hard to try and meet the James River Buffer goals. Kathleen announced that numerous DOF positions are currently available. Many of the DOF staff are being sent out west to fight forest fires.</p> <p>Sharon Conner – Hanover-Caroline SWCD also had a huge cost-share year with approximately \$2 million disbursed. The District had a successful conservation kick-off event at the Meadow Event Park last week with approximately 100 in attendance including Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources Ann Jennings. Their education specialist has held several workshops to make rain barrels and vermi-compost bins.</p> <p>Olivia Hall – There have been quite a number of sanitary sewer breaks and clean up in Henrico with one being in a private community. The Cobb Creek Reservoir construction is going on in Cumberland County. It is a Reservoir for Henrico water. Olivia suggested possibly setting up a kayak trip once construction has been completed in 2023.</p>

	<p>Jennifer Clarke – Richmond working on its combined sewer systems. Richmond has an interim plan with \$33.3 million slated for 10 quicker projects, with the long-term plan and solution (over the next 14 years) costing an estimated \$850 million. Richmond is seeking American Rescue Plan funding so as not to push the burden onto ratepayers, 23.2% of which are below the poverty line.</p> <p>Lindy Durham – Emailed report - Henricopolis joins the VASWCD in recognizing our Youth Conservation Leadership students. We had 3 this year including Max Friedlander, Hina Myamoto and Jayson Gray. We're providing programs for Camp Henrico at 6 locations. We are also participating in the Dorey Park Farmers' Market. The annual conservation poster contest is coming up soon. This is one of our signature programs. Teachers are already requesting staff time for it! Yay!</p>		
CONCLUSIONS	N/A		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Send Video links	Denise Gammon and Lorne Field		

MEETING CALLED BY	Olivia Hall, Chairperson (Henrico)
TYPE OF MEETING	Executive Committee Meeting
NOTE TAKER	Sharon Conner, HCSWCD
ATTENDEES	Sharon Conner and Olivia Hall

Agenda topics

FISCAL REPORT

OLIVIA HALL

DISCUSSION	Lindy Durham, Treasurer, could not make the meeting. Olivia Hall will send out the treasurer's report to the group		
CONCLUSIONS			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Send out Treasurer's report	Olivia Hall		

ANNUAL MEETING

OLIVIA HALL

DISCUSSION	The annual meeting will be held using ZOOM including breakout sessions. Olivia Hall will contact Nancy Lily and Nat Draper to determine the logistics and secure assistance.		
CONCLUSIONS	ZOOM will be used for the Virtual Annual Meeting		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Secure assistance with ZOOM platform from Lily and Draper	Olivia Hall		

Olivia Hall will send out a Doodle poll to determine the next meeting date.

Meeting Adjourned!