



## **FCRP QUARTERLY MEETING NOTES**

December 11th, 2015 | 1:30 -3:30 PM

12000 Government Center Parkway | Conference Rooms 4&5

Attending: Karen Walz-Fuentes, Betsy Smith, Philip Latasa, Noel Kaplan, Ellen Eggerton, Christine McGown, Amy Gould, Ellen Vogel

Developing strategies for working with the PA:

Kris, Philip, Dan & Marie Reinsdorf will meet with the PA to discuss Accotink Gorge and ways we can develop a process where we can offer assistance on a regular basis. County Attorneys are developing county-wide guidelines for engaging with “Friends” groups but we hope to establish a process and that Accotink Gorge can be the beginning of the natural resource interaction that is FCRP’s primary focus. Christine McGown suggested the possibility of research associated with a master’s thesis might be an incentive for the Park Authority to measure outcomes of this type of effort while working with local universities.

Review and status of issues relating 495 Express Lanes:

FCRP has not received a response from VDOT to our request to view the corridor. Amy will draft a second request. Ellen reported on progress with the landscaping plans on 495.

Update on County Bee-Friendly Policy:

Jim McGlone reports in writing that Supervisor Hudgins board matter directing county staff to plant more bee friendly plants on county property. At this time Jim has only seen a Nov. 4 draft response, but he indicates that it looks pretty final. They are going in the same direction as the rest of us. Jim has provided some feedback emphasizing that the county is not alone in this process.

NVAR Realtor forum update: We received some potential dates from NVAR but have gone back to them with the suggested speakers list to ask if any of the speakers have been booked as we felt that would drive our preferred dates. Amy will follow up.

FCRP Updates:

Stormwater Planning did a great job at putting together Bingo for Bees outreach at the Fall for Fairfax KidsFest Thanks to Suzy Foster and the rest of the team for developing this educational program. We all felt it would go smoothly next year with the bulk of the work completed and could be a regular offering at the event. Betsy noted the collaboration with the Chantilly High School Environmental Club was a great asset and perhaps there is more opportunity with other schools as well. She also noted the excellent participation from FACC who really stepped up and assisted in all levels at the event making it a great hands-on activity for about 20 kids. Since it was pouring rain for most of the weekend that was actually a good turnout.

Green Inspirations Film Festival at SpringFest and possibly other venues:

We are attempting to work with SpringFest at the Lorton Arts Center to hold the film festival during the event. We have also reached out to GMU, NVCC & will reach out to Wolf Trap to see about holding a one or two night event in partnership with their Earth Day or other April events.

Noel Kaplan reminded us all of the Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council annual public hearing is scheduled for January 12 at 7:30 PM. In addition to providing an opportunity to speak, there is an opportunity for people to submit video testimony. See EQAC's website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/publichearings/> for details. This item is on the FCRP website calendar.

We had a brief discussion on how HOA covenants might conflict with our approach on Sustainable Sites and how we might make changes at the state level to allow a homeowner to turn his/her yard into a watershed friendly one and not be fined by the HOA who might have a turf percentage requirement. Noel & Ellen (Eggerton) indicated the solar legislation might inform us of how to go forward on that.