

Friends of Accotink Creek Leadership Town Meeting

Dec. 5, 2011

Next Meeting: Jan. 9, 2012

Present: Kris Unger; Suzy Foster; Robert Greenberg; Philip Latasa; Roger Diedrich; Paul Hughes; Flint Webb; Amy Gould; Liz Kirchner; Brian Parr; Olivier Giron; Karen Bushaw-Newton; Katherine Stramel

Not Able to Attend: Jill Caporale – NVCC; Sam Chavez-Rosalez – NVCC; Ted Welsh – Mantua; Danielle Wynne – DPWES, Dan Schwartz – NVSWCD; Cindy Smith – Mow Cow

1. Kris Unger agreed to take the role of leader until such time as a leadership core can be established. Thank you, Kris!

2. Paul raised the question of what the FACC mission statement is. I supplied wording I had on hand,

“Friends of Accotink Creek is dedicated to promoting actions, private or public, that enhance the aquatic habitat of Accotink Creek and also the surrounding terrestrial habitat throughout the watershed.”

But there is an existing statement in FACC printed materials and on our website:

We, the Friends of Accotink Creek, are committed to protecting, promoting and restoring the water quality, natural habitat, and ecological well-being of the Accotink Creek watershed. We intend to:

1. Foster environmental awareness, education, and enhance recreational use;
2. Reduce storm runoff and its effects; restore habitats, preserve land; and
3. Enlist broad-based public and organization participation and support.

3. Suzy Foster solicited suggested goals from the attendees and compiled this list:

- Network with other watershed organizations/Watershed Summit
 - Create a whole greater than the sum of the parts, or at least have a sum.
- Recruit more members/leaders
 - Members vs. coalition
- Get 501c status (long, expensive, & grueling?)
 - Or use a fiscal agent
 - Get more clout with businesses such as Whole Foods
- Reduce net impervious surface in county 5%
 - Infrastructure
- Support/Implement goals of W.A.G.
 - Agents between county plant and community groups
- Continue/expand stream monitoring
- Community education
- Projects on the ground
- PR – Media – spread the word

- Identify illegal dumpsites
- Cutting edge technologies – LID's
- Use \$ to leverage more \$
- Develop organization/leadership structure
- Bylaws
- Document condition of stream – photos – video

4. Discussion narrowed our current focus to four goals:

A. Organize a Watershed Summit with local other stream/watersheds groups

- Possible participants: Friends of Sligo Creek, Richard Street, VDOF, VA Tech water monitoring, NVCC, Trout Unlimited, FCRP, Wetland Solutions, Master Naturalists, Audubon, Daniels Run, Occoquan, Difficult Run, GMU Sustainability Center
- Action – Liz, Olivier, Amy

B. Bylaws

- Action – Flint, Robert

C. Grants

- Possible sources: an anonymous family foundation, Transurban, money FACC has in bank
- Action – Paul Hughes

D. Outreach?

5. The next meeting is to be the second Monday in January, with regular meetings to follow. For January, each attendee is to try to bring another person, fulfilling the FACC motto “Find just one other person who cares”

The Core group:

Kris Unger - krisunger@gmail.com;

Suzy Foster; greenbergfoster@verizon.net

Robert Greenberg; greenbergfoster@verizon.net

Philip Latasa; prl@mail.org

Roger Diedrich rdiedrich@cox.net;

Paul Hughes phughes1967@gmail.com;

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Sam Chavez-Rosalez; scrosalez@nvcc.edu
duane.murphy@cox.net;
Danielle.Wynne@fairfaxcounty.gov
Daniel.Schwartz@fairfaxcounty.gov

Core group additions – Duane, Everyone from the last meeting, and a couple of no shows I still have some hope for: Dan Altman usaidsac@gmail.com & Bryan Campbell campbelp@hotmail.com

Philip Latasa

Friends of Accotink Creek