

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Wicomico County Natural Resources Conservation Advisory Committee - January 11, 2022

Committee: Judith Stribling Alyssa Hastings Jared Parks Will Dyer Aaron Cooper

Guests: Zach Carnegie & Tyler Walston

Previous Minutes were approved: Motion to approve – Alyssa Hastings; seconded by Jared Parks – minutes approved as distributed.

Invasive Species Updates

Ms. Stribling shared that she still has not heard from Mr. Whitelock; therefore, the discussion has been postponed until the next meeting. However, she had a discussion with Mr. Keith Hall regarding funding for invasive species and position for Weed Coordinator. Ms. Stribling will draft a letter to the Acting Executive Director.

Mr. Parks shared that an extension for the grant had been approved and this will provide funding for Victoria through April. He also suggested that any further request for additional responsibility of the Prism Coordinator until funding is provided should be discussed with Victoria for availability.

An update given by Ms. Hastings that the Chesapeake Bay trust grant was officially awarded for full funding of the invasive species for the Wicomico River City Park buffer. City Staff will be trained on identifying invasive species and beneficial plants. Maintenance and volunteers will work on the project; a kickoff will be scheduled with Victoria within the next couple of weeks.

Waterside park project community outreach is removing invasive species along the water has not been fully funded. Mr. Parks is interested in assisting with funding from CBT grant as a partner for planting trees. He will follow-up with Marilyn, the lead for the program and with Carol Donohue.

Public engagement partnering with Beacon for sustainability in surrounding neighborhoods to include residence for ideas. Tree solutions Now Act is a resource for acquiring funding – more discussion in the spring.

Logo: Doug Stevens has a resource who may be able to help.

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Alliance: Goals shared by Mr. Walston & Mr. Carnegie

Mission: Bring together and improve companies and communities to preserve land and water. Four pillars of work: Agriculture, Forestry, Stewardship, and Engagement. The alliance provides technical support and grant writing. They have an upcoming meeting with Perdue and Randy Day; other partners include Land O'Lakes and Hershey. Additional interests include finding other industries as poultry and watershed alliance and Lower Shore Land Trust for future discussions. Virtual trainings are available for tree and soil biology, site assessment, planting, and maintenance. Ms. Hastings invited them to be a part of the next Green team meeting.

Additional Update: Jared and Frank are working on a Rural Legacy application for submission and will provide an update in the March meeting.