

**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**  
**STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**OF THE**  
**ANACOSTIA WATERSHED RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP**  
**Thursday, February 25, 2010**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership Steering Committee was held on Thursday, February 25, 2010 in the Board Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor at COG. The attendees, in alphabetical order, were:

Name			Organization
<b>Members and Staff</b>			
Ms.	Sheila	Besse	District of Columbia Department of the Environment
Dr.	Mary	Barber	AWCAC
Mr.	Tom	Brosnan	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
Ms.	Bicky	Corman	District of Columbia DOE
Mr.	Frank	Dawson	MD-Department of Natural Resources
Ms.	Diana	Esher	US Environmental Protection Agency (via phone)
Mr.	Jim	Foster	Anacostia Watershed Society
Mr.	Stuart	Freudberg	MWCOG
Mr.	John	Galli	MWCOG
Dr.	Jim	George	Maryland Department of the Environment
Dr.	Ted	Graham	MWCOG
Ms.	Amy	Guise	US Army Corps of Engineers
Ms.	Linda	Howard	Summit Fund of Washington
Mr.	Bob	Hoyt	Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
Mr.	Aubin	Maynard	MWCOG
Ms.	Lisa	Mendelson-Ielmini	National Park Service
Ms.	Dana	Minerva	Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership
Dr.	Sam	Moki	Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources
Mr.	Steve	Shofar	Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
Mr.	Eric	Siegel	The Cohen Companies; Riverfront BID
Mr.	Mike	Smith	AWCAC
Mr.	Phong	Trieu	MWCOG
Mr.	David	Tuchmann	Akridge
Mr.	Ken	Yetman	MD-Department of Natural Resources
Mr.	Charles	Wilson	Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources

<b>Guests</b>			
Mr.	Brent	Bolin	Anacostia Watershed Society
Ms.	Jennifer	Bevan-Dangel	1000 Friends of Maryland (via phone)
Ms.	Brooks	DeRensis	Appleseed Foundation
Mr.	Matt	English	Living Classrooms Foundation
Ms.	Annette	Grant	Earth Conservation Corps
Ms.	Carol	Hearle	Past Member
Mr.	Joseph	Ney	Reingold & Associates
Mr.	Steve	Pattison	Past Chair

The City of Hyattsville was not represented

<b>Action Items</b>			
(Updated: 2/26/10)			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>
SC Meeting	1. Distribute draft February 2010 meeting summary 2. Prepare agenda for April SC meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare the "Action Items" separate from the Meeting Summary</li> <li>• Include an "Actions/decisions" item at the top of the agenda</li> </ul>	1. Graham 2. Graham	1. Pending 2. Pending
Membership	1. Notify new members to the Steering Committee 2. Write up revised procedure for selecting the Chair and Vice Chair 3. Alter the Bylaws to reflect the selection process 4. Prepare recommendations for consideration by the SC at the April meeting for the remaining open slots	1. Graham 2. Esher 3. Graham 4. Membership Committee	1. Pending 2. Pending 3. Pending 4. Pending
Communication Plan and Rollout of the ARP	1. USACE distribute ARP Exec. Summary 2. Provide comments on the ES 3. Complete planning for the April 19 Rollout event 4. Incorporate the revised P&P section in the ARP 5. Make revisions to the proposed logo	1. USACE 2. Members 3. Dana Minerva 4. USACE 5. Reingold/Communications Committee	1. Complete 2. Complete 3. Pending 4. Pending 5. Pending
Montgomery County MS4 Permit	1. Per Bob Hoyt's request, provide data about DC bag Bill implementation	1. DDOE	1. Pending
Lower Beaverdam Toxics Investigation	1. MDE to provide update at April SC meeting	1. MDE	1. Pending
Trash TMDL	1. Proceed with draft TMDL and public process	1. MDE & DDOE	1. Pending
Post 2010 Goals and Milestones	2. Send out a request for SC & MC volunteers to serve on Post-2010 Goals Subcommittee	2. COG	2. Pending
Capital Riverfront BID Environmental Summit	1. Finalize planning for Capitol Riverfront BID Environmental Summit; May 18, 55 M St SE	1. Siegel/Minerva	1. Ongoing
Request for Partnership Accomplishments	1. Prepare a succinct list of Partnership accomplishments	1. COG	1. Pending
Report on Interagency Communication	1. Draft report on federal interagency communication (end of February)	1. Lori Williams	1. Pending
ICC Letter	1. A letter requesting additional information on projects and costs be shared with jurisdictional members will be sent to SHA and copied to regulating agencies	1. Minerva	1. Pending

## **I. Call to Order and Chair Items**

Mr. Dawson called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

### **A. Approval of December Meeting Summary**

The meeting summary of the December 2009 Steering Committee meeting was approved by consensus.

### **B. Report of the Membership Committee**

Ms. Howard thanked the members of the Membership Committee (Jon Capacasa, Frank Dawson, Diana Esher, Ted Graham, Bob Hoyt and Hamid Karimi) for their participation and hard work. She presented a proposed roster for the Steering Committee that included updates to the core membership and proposed revisions to the "other members." Under the core members, Jim George is the alternate to Rich Eskin from MDE. The new member from NOAA is Tom Brosnan; his alternate is Peyton Robertson. The member and alternate from the NPS are still to be determined.

Under Other Members, the committee recommended that: Diane Cameron of the Audubon Naturalist Society be the new member representing the NGO community replacing Nancy Stoner of NRDC; George Hawkins and Maureen McGowan be the member and alternate representing DC-WASA.

Note that other slots still "in process" are: Municipality alternate; University; and WSSC.

Diana Esher reviewed four options for selection of the Steering Committee Chair. It was agreed that "Option 2" was the preferred option whereby the Membership Committee accepts nominations and presents a recommendation to the Steering Committee for action. A similar process will be used for selection of the Vice Chair. It was agreed that when the membership Committee was deliberating on potential candidates, one factor for consideration should be prior core member participation.

Linda Howard moved approval of the committee recommendations and the process for selection of Chair and Vice Chair. Bob Hoyt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Action: Ms. Esher will re-write the chair/vice chair selection process to reflect the action of the Steering Committee.**

**Action: COG will propose revisions to the bylaws for consideration in April.**

**Action: COG will formally notify new members of their approval as Steering Committee members.**

**Action: The Membership Committee will prepare recommendations in April for the remaining open slots.**

### **C. Legislative Update**

Jennifer Bevan-Dangel, Deputy Director of 1000 Friends of Maryland, presented an overview of environmental legislation under consideration by the Maryland legislature.

Her general observation is that the combination of budget concerns plus federal initiatives plus elections combine to preclude much in the way of new initiatives. Highlights of her presentation include:

- Environmental groups support the Stormwater utility Bill (SB686 and HB 999) that requires every jurisdiction to create a stormwater utility or a dedicated funding source for addressing stormwater-related restoration and TMDL compliance;
- Environmental groups oppose several bills that roll back recent advances in stormwater regulations. Of particular concern is HB 1125 that “makes comprehensive rollbacks to the stormwater regulations” and “guts the redevelopment standards in the regulations.”
- The “bag fee” bill will be heard on March 10 but is likely to run afoul of the budgetary/fiscal impact concerns.
- She stressed the importance of demonstrating job-related benefits with environmental programs and projects.

In the ensuing discussion it was noted that the DC bag bill has resulted in a huge reduction in the usage of plastic bags in the District

#### **D. Recognition**

Chairman Dawson presented certificates recognizing the past service of former Steering Committee members Mary Barber (past Chair of AWCAC); Carol Hearle; and Steve Pattison (Steering Committee Chair for three years).

## **II. Communication Plan for and Rollout of the ARP**

### **A. Communication Plan**

Ms. Minerva noted that the PDT has recommended that what has been called the “Executive Summary” (ES) being prepared by Reingold be a stand-alone document rather than incorporated into the ARP. This led to a discussion of the purpose and audience of the document. It was noted that the ARP itself is a technical document, quite lengthy and lays out a plan without detailing the benefits, i.e. what is gained from a \$1.7 billion investment?

Key points raised in the ensuing discussion include:

- This document is not a summary of the ARP, but rather an overview of the entire restoration effort.
- It is designed to be accessible to the lay reader, provide a context for the restoration and clearly articulate the benefits.
- There was sentiment that this, as a marketing piece, be glossy and be limited to two pages.
- Members of Congress and their staff comprise a key audience as they will be approached for substantial funding support.
- Others, such as officials with state and local funding responsibility are also potential recipients.
- The document can be viewed as a marketing tool, one that helps the Partnership explain why today’s actions are different from yesterday’s rhetoric.

- If the Partnership is approaching a given entity requesting support, perhaps in the form of funding, this document could be attached and referred to in a cover letter or memorandum.
- Having too many summary documents could be confusing.
- The relationship between this document and the Action Agenda and the Executive Summary (which is three pages long and technical in nature) needs to be thought through.

The Communication Committee will remain intact to address these issues and oversee completion of the document.

#### **B. Rollout of the ARP**

Ms. Minerva has the lead in developing plans for a formal rollout ceremony of the ARP including members of Congress in early April. April 6 is the tentative date. [Note: The date has been rescheduled to April 19.] It is expected that Representatives Hoyer, Van Hollen, Edwards and Holmes Norton will attend. It is also on the calendar of the Assistant Secretary of the Army and there is interest at EPA and the Department of the Interior for high-ranking officials to attend. Several ideas for a venue (e.g., the green roof at the DOT building) and some project to help provide focus at the event are being considered.

The ARP itself is to be finalized on February 26, although printing will be held until March. Any comments on the ES of the ARP (to be distributed at lunch) will need to be provided to Amy Guise by the end of the day. Ms. Minerva reviewed the recommendations part of the "Policies and Programs" section of the ARP. Some edits were made that will be included in the ARP.

**Action: USACE to distribute the draft ARP Executive Summary to the co-sharing sponsors this afternoon (2/25).**

**Action: Provide any comments in the above ES not later than Friday (2/26).**

**Action: Complete planning for the April 19 rollout event.**

**Action: Incorporate the revised Policies and Programs piece in the ARP, including language stating that the Partnership will continue to follow research on the safety of artificial turf.**

#### **III. Update on Montgomery County's MS4 Permit**

Bob Hoyt distributed a copy of Montgomery County's MS4 stormwater permit that was issued, effective February 16, 2010. Among its provisions (Part III.G), it requires: (1) completion of the retrofitting of 10% of the County's impervious surface area; and (2) retrofitting of an additional 20% of the County's impervious surface that is not restored to the MEP (i.e., 4,500 acres). Mr. Hoyt noted that this requirement will outstrip the "paygo" approach that had previously been the county's policy, based on the ~\$45/year/household stormwater fee and they will be increasingly reliant on revenue bonds tied to the stormwater fee revenue stream.

**Action: During the discussion Bob requested more information on the District's experience with the Bag Bill. DDOE is to provide this information**

#### **IV. Communication Plan Continued: Proposed Logo**

After the lunch break, Joseph Ney of Reingold reviewed candidate logos for consideration by the Steering Committee. He presented two options with four and two variations, respectively. The first

was based on the phrase, "Turn It Around;" the second on "Anacostia – Our Watershed Moment." Several of the comments provided to give Reingold further guidance were:

- Consider "turning" rather than "turn;"
- Include an image as well as Anacostia Watershed in the "Turn It Around" version;
- Consider how a bumper sticker might look;
- The phrase "our watershed" has a good ring to it;
- Make sure the logo and tag line will work throughout the watershed; for example, "Anacostia" could be confused with the area east of the river in the District of Columbia.

Per a straw poll, the "Turn It Around" version was the clear favorite.

**Action: Reingold will make revisions for consideration by the Communications Committee.**

## V. Options for Toxics Reduction

Diana Esher provided a brief overview of the potential options available for addressing six "contaminated sediment hotspots in the Anacostia River:: (1) the Washington Navy Yard, (2) the Southeast Federal Center, (3) Poplar Point, (4) Washington Gas Light, (5) PEPCO Benning Road, and (6) Kenilworth Landfill. Her handout indicated ownership and status for each of the six sites. EPA expects to have defined the legal authority (i.e., through CERCLA or RCRA) for further action by this summer for those sites where further action is considered appropriate.

Ms. Corman requested that the meeting summary reflect her concern to this topic being brought to the Steering Committee before EPA and the District had completed ongoing discussions.

## VI. Update on Toxics in Lower Beverdam Creek

Jim George provided an overview of "MDE's 2007 Caged Clam Study to Characterize PCB Bioavailability in the Lower Beverdam Creek Subwatershed." He covered the study design and preliminary results. MDE has confirmed Dr. Phelps' conclusion that there appears to be an ongoing PCB source near the Landover Metro although permitted point sources and already identified contaminated sites do not seem to be the source. Looking ahead, MDE is exploring the most appropriate means to further identify the source, including a site study; a stream walk or additional collection of soil and sediment samples.

**Action: MDE was requested to come back to the Steering Committee in April with a further update.**

## VII. Executive Directors Report

### A. Trash TMDL

Ms. Minerva reported that MDE is ready to share the Maryland portion of the Trash TMDL with the Partnership's Trash Work Group and is awaiting the completion of the internal review process in the District of Columbia.

**Action: MDE & DDOE to plan the coordinated stakeholder process.**

### B. Goals and Milestones

As 2010 is drawing to a close, there is a need to assess "post-2010 goals." Recommendations are to be developed by a "Goals Subcommittee," comprised of both Steering Committee and Management Committee members.

**Action: COG will send out an email request for volunteers to participate in the Post 2010 Goals Subcommittee.**

### C. Capitol Riverfront BID Environmental Summit

The Capitol Riverfront's Anacostia River Environmental Summit 2010 is shaping up. It is to be an opportunity to engage the business community on Anacostia restoration. The tentative date and time are May 18, 2010 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (meeting until 5:30; reception until 7:00). It will occur just a few weeks after the Congressional Rollout of the ARP and will afford an opportunity for the Corps to present the ARP. Current plans are for remarks by senior USACE, DOI and EPA officials followed by a panel discussion on "How local public officials and business leaders are/can reinforce and respond to the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Plan. A \$25/person registration fee is envisioned and sponsorships and displays will be solicited.

#### **VIII. Management Committee Report**

Ken Yetman reported that the Management Committee is giving thought to organizing a citizens event with a focus on implementation.

#### **IX. AWCAC Report**

Mike Smith reported that AWCAC supports the creation of a new logo and wants to ensure that it will be effective on roadway signs throughout the watershed. AWCAC is considering an "Advocacy III" workshop and has sent several letters to state and local representatives regarding the stormwater bills, bag bills and ICC related issues. He indicated that AWCAC would like to see a list of ICC mitigation projects, status and related information from SHA.

**Action: COG staff will contact SHA and request an updated list.**

#### **X. Items from Members**

**Action (per F. Dawson): Format future agendas with a list of actions/decisions at the beginning.**

**Action (per L. Howard): Include the "Action Items" as standalone document, not just as a part of the meeting summary.**

**Action (per E. Siegel): Prepare a list of Partnership accomplishments in succinct form.**

#### **XI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.