



## **FCRP QUARTERLY MEETING**

Tuesday | August 9, 2016 | 1:30-3:30 PM | Conference Rooms 2-3  
12000 Government Center Parkway

### **MEETING NOTES**

Attending: Jim McGlone, Keith Cline, Karen Fuentes, Aimee Vosper, Eric Inman, Dan Schwartz, Marcia Pape, Rob Johnson, Eduardo Guico Jr, Kris Unger, Lauren Mollerup, Tom Tasselli, Kodjo Messan, Stanley Newman, Fred Rose, Judi Booker, Carl Iddings, Philip Latasa, Noel Kaplan, Suzy Foster, Betsy Smith, Amy Gould, Patti Stevens

#### **1. Review status of issues relating to 495 Express Lanes Project:**

- Lauren Mollerup reviewed the status of the punch list along Accotink Creek per our walk-through of May 9<sup>th</sup>. Many of the items are in process and Kodjo is working through it with VDOT's contractors. Some will have to wait for cooler weather when the foliage is less burdensome or when planting time is more beneficial. Philip asked about the condition of the spring. The spring continues to be a challenge, VDOT will have its hydrologist take a look at it. Because of the location it will require a partner at the county to help as some of the damage is outside of the right of way. Additionally, the path connecting the ICC trail and linked by the damaged asphalt requires a partner to maintain and scheduling meetings to discuss have been challenging during the summer months. Amy mentioned there were some pictures handed off to Transurban taken in 2014, while we realize some of these items may have been addressed by now, we would like some confirmation as they have promised a response but we have not yet received one.

-Update on status of future landscape contract – Tom Tasselli reviewed the status of the landscaping contract. It was let at the end of July for the areas around Braddock Road & 236 with a target planting time of October 2016. FCRP's original planting recommendations given to VDOT in July of 2012 were passed on to Tom as our recommendations would not have changed. He will be meeting with Kimley – Horn, their consultant, to discuss the plant materials. An additional contract will be let for spring planting along some of the other areas to attempt to correct the invasive issues and to plant areas that failed previously. If areas are found to be well-established it is possible nothing will be done. FCRP understands the challenges involved but any improvement to the outcome will be welcome.

It was noted we would need to follow up on the plantings we recommended for the soundwalls to help screen our communities and coordinating with VDOT maintenance to be sure they know not to remove these items as that happened with the areas around Raintree at Gallows & 495 and along the Landmark area although that may have been a different project, but the same problem.

Lauren asked Stanley to take a look at the area around Lafayette Village as the erosion at the very top of the hill is an issue that should be looked at. They believed the fencing had been repaired, Carl Iddings will confirm that.

Judi Booker asked when the tree supports would be removed. There was discussion of trees species and Jim McGlone recommended the trees not be planted with supports as it is not necessary and the wires are forgotten and it distorts the way the tree develops or kills it. Tom will look at that and be sure the newer trees are not tethered. This problem is not unique to this project.

## 2. Eric Inman/Aimee Vosper, FCPA, Stewardship Education Center Project

-Eric Inman summarized the plan by FCPA to develop the Sully Woodlands Stewardship Education Center within the 4,400 acre 43 parks which would focus on scientific research, education, forest management, and preservation. There are potential partnering opportunities with universities and businesses for specific items within these focus areas. The goal is to become a regional research facility and outdoor lab. There was discussion on ways to bring in business partners, it was suggested FCPA reach out to the NOVA Chamber to present as many business want to partner on environmental issues but find it difficult to find ways to accomplish that. Philip mentioned there was a large tire dump within that area and wondered about the status of that and its impact on this project. The website for Potential Partners is found here: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/swsec.htm>

## 3. NVCC Film Festival, October 2016

-Rob Johnson of Northern Virginia Community College spoke about holding an environmental film festival at NVCC on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Rob felt there is so much activity during the spring around Earth Day that maybe the fall timeframe might work better and he'd like to offer it at all three campuses. FCRP held an environmental film festival in 2014, but have not been able to find a proper venue since that time. It was agreed that FCRP would collaborate on this and would be happy to provide any of its existing movies, banners, etc. if NVCC would like to use the name "Green Inspirations." Amy & Rob will work on this together as we both feel that Fairfax County, Virginia should have an environmental film festival, these can take time to establish, but that not having the venue challenge is a significant accomplishment.

## 4. Review of Strategic Planning from 2015:

- 1 yr – Develop NVAR relationship beginning with SSI
- 2 yr – Green Streets Demonstration Project
- 3 yr – VDOT E&S Manual Update / County Public Facilities Update

While FCRP was not able to accomplish the SSI goal set above within the first year goal, we were able to establish a relationship with NVAR and work to provide the PlantNovaNatives booklets to the Realtor Store. The SSI conference might be better served by a different partner and Jim agreed to approach NVBIA to see if there was interest in working with us on introducing Sustainable Sites.

Our two year goal was to develop a Green Streets project and we have not been able to make significant progress on this. However, the new Annandale revitalization effort might provide a glimmer of potential. Carl Iddings summarized the Urban Institute's recommendations. We will attempt to reach out and include the Green Streets aspect in that plant.

Year 3 is an on-going challenge. VDOT still pushes back on the E&S update but there is some undercurrent and recognition that this must happen. Noel Kaplan reports that the county is looking at PFM as the Chesapeake Bay rules are impacting this also.

## 5. Upcoming Events:

- Fall for Fairfax: Need to determine support, web page used last year for sign ups can be reactivated
- Green Roof Tours: Need to determine # of signs needed and promote self-tours

## 6. Annual Report & Website Development

-Amy will circulate the Draft Annual Report for 2015. There are still some areas in need of input. Please update sections you are aware of progress on or respond with an approval to complete the issue. This must be completed by the end of August.

## 7. Other Business & Updates

-Brief discussion on potential grants for an HOA meadow project that is beginning discussions along 495. It was recommended that Dominion Foundation could be a good source of funds for this since it is a project that occurs in a Dominion easement and is the type of project they like to see. Judi Booker will reach out to HRA civic association to see if there is any interest in participating in this.