

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, October 19, 2016, to meet with Watershed Groups.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was held in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; Luisa Robles, Sustainability Coordinator; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen Administrative Assistant.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Bill Duncan, Friends of Still Creek; Susan Barnett and Tom Taylor, Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group; Ben Fischler and Cary Coppock, Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek; and Bill Orleans.

Mr. Duncan reported that Friends of Still Creek (FOSC), Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group (BCWWG) and Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek (CCRIC) have not only been working on their individual projects, but have also been working collaboratively on joint projects. He said they have formed a Stream Circle Group within the Greenbelt Green Team.

Mr. Duncan advised that he would like to have the groups become involved early on proposed development projects in the City that may impact the watersheds. After discussion, it was suggested that the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability and the Green Team Stream Circle Group be included on the Advisory Planning Board's notification list so they can be kept informed of upcoming projects.

Ms. Barnett suggested a master plan be developed to address the storm water problem areas. She also commented on the storm water runoff from the Greenbriar parking lot and suggested that the parking lot be redone to have the drainage directed under the Baltimore Washington Parkway. Ms. Robles said that if Greenbriar proceeds with the Solar Panel project, the money saved can be recycled back into the community by having the parking lot redone.

Mr. Putens suggested that Stream Circle Group meet with local homeowner associations and Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition to educate the members. Mr. Herling suggested they meet with residents of apartment developments as well.

Mr. Duncan provided an update on SCWWG. He asked that the City consider seeking a grant for a survey of the storm water issues in the area.

Ms. Davis suggested that FOSC monitor the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission sewer line rehabilitation work project on a portion of Still Creek just off of the entrance road to the Hanover Apartments. She also noted that the contractor only provides a one year warranty for the trees that are replanted as part of the project. Ms. Davis suggested that FOSC check on the area every two to four months to check on the status of the new plantings.

Ms. Barnett reported that BCWWG holds regular cleanups and finds various things such as clothing, mopeds, shopping carts, etc. She said the area is in recovery from damage caused by bikers in the 1990's and suggested that one of the entrance roads be closed so the area can fully recover. Ms. Barnett noted that the Pumpkin Walk will be held later this month.

Mr. Coppock provided an update on CCRIC. He said CCRIC is monitoring the reconstruction of Powder Mill Road.

Informational Items

Several informational items were discussed.

The meeting ended at 10: 25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

*Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Administrative Assistant*