

Antietam Creek Watershed Alliance (ACWA) January 23, 2007 Meeting Summary

Antietam Creek Watershed Alliance (ACWA) held an evening meeting on January 23, 2007 at the Quality Inn in Hagerstown, MD. It was called to order at 7:05 PM by Sally Hatch. After opening comments and introductions of those in attendance, the meeting was turned over to Emilie Cooper, ACWA's watershed expert. Emilie stated that she is with the Resource Conservation & Development of Western Maryland but works out of the Department of Natural Resources office in Clear Spring, MD as a RC&D Watershed Forester. She subsequently introduced Adam Griggs of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB). Before and after his presentation, there was discussion which is summarized below:

1. The ICPRB's, Potomac Basin Reporter's November/December 2006 issue includes an article, "ACWA Takes Antietam Creek by Bootstraps." Copies of these article are available from Adam.

2. Committee Reports

a. ACWA Organization and Development:

This committee has made some progress to date. Nonprofit status should be achieved during this calendar year, and financial packets will be prepared. A Board of Directors will be selected from volunteers ASAP (if interested, please contact us). Officers will be appointed by the Board. ACWA's mission statement and by-laws will be submitted for review and approval at our next meeting. Please contact us about any possible business/persons that might want to help us out financially. Also, please contact the Yahoo Group site or yahoo.com/group to search and find the "antietamcreekalliancemd" group for information, postings, and to sign up.

b. Community and Outreach.

This committee has weekly meetings. Joyce Angleberger, Bryce Mayhor, Fay Wastler, Emilie, and our student intern, Tiffany Dillman, participate. A brochure is in the final stages and work on an ACWA logo continues. Four suggested logos were displayed and those present expressed their approvals and disapprovals of the same. A "Letter to the Editor" of the Herald-Mail about our meeting was submitted by Joyce and published. John Brognard will be obtaining a domain, ACWAMD, for us and creating our website.

c. Project Detail

(1) ACWA will give a presentation on the Antietam Creek Watershed at a Washington County Commissioners' meeting on March 13, 2007 at 1:00 PM. Donna Brightman, assisted by Hank Livelsberger will be the presenters. Emilie is preparing a short, power point program.

(2) Emilie and Adam are participating in the City's Greenway Process which will include

sections of Antietam Creek's watershed. In the proposed Light Business Park an area of land with access to Antietam Creek is said to be under consideration for donation to the City for use as Kiwanis Park and as part of the Greenway. Please contact Fred Nugent if you are interested in helping with this project.

(3) A spring tree planting is under consideration and may include left over DNR trees, with time and place yet to be determined. A discussion about tree tubes took place and the negatives of the same were pointed out.

3. RC&D's Backyard Buffer Program. If you have property that needs a riparian buffer, please contact Emilie.

PROGRAM BY ADAM GRIGGS OF ICPRB

A summation of Adam's excellent presentation will not do it justice. The title, Antietam Creek Watershed: A Union of Land, Water, and People was scientific, significant, and educational. If you missed it, we're sorry! We hope that this program, along with the one that will be presented to the WCC, will become educational outreach tools. If you know of groups that would like these presentations, please contact us.

NEXT MEETING

We will let you know where and when as soon as one is scheduled. The Quality Inn location proved to be an excellent site and host so we plan on holding other public meetings there. Please contact Emilie, Adam, or Sally and Bob at their e-mail addresses with comments/questions.

Sally Hatch