

LGAC – Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2013
Fredericksburg, VA

Members Present: *Rick Gray, John Thomas, Sheila Noll, Sheila Finlayson, Ann Simonetti, Kelly Porter, Dave Dunmyer*

Staff Present: *Al Todd, Lou Etgen, Jessica Blackburn, Mary Gattis, Vickie Stinson*

The Executive Committee discussed the new Bay Agreement, which is being drafted now, and agreed that LGAC should write a letter to the Principals Staff Committee indicating a desire to be involved in drafting the new Agreement.

Chairman Gray introduced Mary Gattis, who was hired by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to serve as LGAC's new Coordinator. Mary begins her work with LGAC on May 1, 2013. She will be based in Pennsylvania.

LGAC Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2013
Fredericksburg, VA

Members Present: *Rick Gray (Chair), Penny Gross, Bruce Williams, Bob Willey, John Thomas, Dave Dunmyer, Ann Simonetti, Jessica Blackburn, Al Todd, Sheila Finlayson, Kelly Porter, Sheila Noll*

Staff Present: *Al Todd, Jessica Blackburn, Lou Etgen, Vickie Stinson and Mary Gattis*

Invited Guests and Presenters:

- Nick DiPasquale, Director, Chesapeake Bay Program Office
- Gary Belan, American Rivers
- Kevin Utt – City of Fredericksburg
- Dan Nees – Environmental Finance Center
- Hillary Falk – Charlottesville, VA Stormwater Program

Meeting began with committee member roll call and introductions of guests as well as new LGAC Coordinator, Mary Gattis.

Conversation with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Nick DiPasquale, Director, US EPA, Chesapeake Bay Program Office

DiPasquale gave a brief overview of the history of the Chesapeake Bay Agreements and informed the members that a new Bay Agreement is being drafted. A framework is now in draft form. LGAC would like to be involved in drafting the new Bay Agreement.

Signing of the new Bay Agreement is expected to take place at the next EC meeting in conjunction with a celebration that marks 30-years since original Bay Agreement.

Action: The committee agreed that the Chair should send a letter to PSC Chair, Keith Anderson, requesting participation in drafting of new agreement. Staff will work with Chair to draft letter.

DiPasquale provided information on the upcoming Environmental Finance Center (EFC) forums that will be held in Pennsylvania sometime in May 2013. DiPasquale stated that he will provide LGAC with future dates and times.

Other items discussed with Mr. DiPasquale included:

- New Stormwater Rule – LGAC to address later on agenda
- NFWF Funding
- BMP Verification
- Trading
- MS4 NPDES Permits
- Permitting delays, e.g. Army Corps permits

Business Meeting

March 2013 Meeting Minutes were approved by consensus.

Executive Committee Report:

- Chairman Gray sent a letter to the VA Governor regarding LGAC representation. He asked that appointments be made to fill vacancies resulting from Larry Trala's resignation and James Eskridge's lack of attendance/participation.
- A PA delegate is needed to replace Mary Labert (McAdoo Borough); Doug Hoke (York County Commissioner) has also indicated that he is no longer able to serve as an alternate for Jeff Wheeland (Lycoming County Commissioner).

Action: Ann Simonetti to follow up with Pa State Association of Boroughs about a replacement for Mary Labert.

Communications Workgroup Report (Finlayson, Chair)

The communications workgroup met with Deb Kleiner (Choose Clean Water Coalition) in April regarding future strategic planning.

- The workgroup is interested in developing a communications toolbox. The Choose Clean Water Coalition is willing to assist LGAC in developing a tool box. The audience for the toolbox needs to be defined.

Members discussed annual report to the Executive Council. Recommendations should be very specific and concise. Report will be presented at September/October EC meeting. Jurisdiction specific recommendations need to be considered.

Sheila Noll reported that several members of the Virginia delegation sent a letter to the governor listing concerns regarding communications. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to LGAC members for their information.

The Environmental Finance Center is producing a publication about stormwater financing.

Stormwater Rulemaking Presentation (Gary Belan, American Rivers)

After a brief presentation by Mr. Belan, the committee reviewed and edited a letter drafted by staff calling for green infrastructure solutions to be part of the rule-making.

Action: The committee authorized LGAC chairman Gray to send the revised letter to the Acting EPA Administrator.

Strategic Plan

The committee reviewed and reported on the status of actions under Priorities #1, 2 and 3. They identified actions that should be taken in the coming weeks/months. See the attached status report.

Presentations:

1. Hilary Harp Falk - Choose clean Water Coalition

Hilary provided an overview of the Choose Clean Water Coalition and its goals. She highlighted work that the Coalition is doing in support of Maryland communities that are in the process of adopting stormwater Utilities. She also shared a list of words that should not be used when talking to the public and words that may not be appropriate when speaking with the public.

The Choose Clean Water Conference will be held in Baltimore. June 4-5. The next quarterly LGAC meeting is being moved to June 5-6 to coincide with the conference. The Coalition has offered complimentary conference registration to all LGAC members.

2. Kevin Utt - City of Fredericksburg

Kevin Utt provided an overview of local success stories in dealing with stormwater management issues. Two items were of particular interest to committee members: an app for assessing pollutant removal associated with various stormwater BMPs; a local bank (Union First Market Bank) is offering lower interest rates to customers financing stormwater improvements.

3. Dan Nees – Environmental Financing

Dan Nees provided an introduction to the Environmental Finance Center and the programs/services they are offering throughout the watershed. He also shared information about their findings related to job creation and green infrastructure. Dan's presentation has been posted with meeting materials on LGAC's Chesapeake Bay Program website.

Decisions, action items and next steps

1. Send letter to PSC regarding LGAC involvement in new Bay Agreement
2. Send letter to EPA Acting Administrator regarding New Stormwater Rule
3. Continue implementing strategic plan.
4. Ann Simonetti to follow up with PSAB about PA representative appointment.
5. Sheila Noll to provide copy of letter to the VA Governor outlining concerns.
6. Mary to work with Communications Workgroup on defining audiences for toolbox, publications, etc.
7. Al/Mary to work with EFC on leadership training to be held in conjunction with the Watershed Forum in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.