



Members Present: Ruby Brabo, Richard Baugh, Janine Burns, Diane Davis, Dave Dunmyer, Rick Gray, Leo Lutz, Kelly Porter, Ann Simonetti, John Thomas, James Wheeler, Bob Willey, and Bruce Williams.

Staff Present: Mary Gattis (LGAC Coordinator, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay) and Amy Robins (LGAC staff, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay).

Speakers/Guests Present: Carin Bisland (EPA CBPO), Nick DiPasquale (EPA CBPO), Rhonda Manning (PA DEP), Julie Mawhorter (USDA Forest Service, CBP), Reggie Parrish (CBP), and Kristen Wolf (PA DEP).

Meeting presentations and material: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/21410/>

Friday, September 26, 2014

Call to Order, Introductions

D.C. Vice-Chair Diane Davis called the meeting to order at approximately 8 a.m. New Virginia delegates Richard Baugh, Ruby Brabo, and Janine Burns were welcomed and introduced themselves. Two additional new Virginia members, Larry Land and Ernie Lehmann, were unable to attend. Other guests and newcomers introduced themselves.

Business Meeting

Nominations were requested for the election of a new Chair to complete the Virginia term. Penny Gross was elected to be the new Chair, with Gray making the first motion, and Dave Dunmyer seconding the motion. The new Virginia delegates abstained from voting. It was recommended that a Virginia Vice-Chair not be elected until the December 2014 meeting in Easton, MD to give the new Virginia delegation time to meet.

It was noted that Dave Dunmyer is not running for re-election and therefore will be leaving LGAC sometime after the December meeting. Mary Ann Lisanti is running for Delegate and will also be leaving LGAC if successful. Gattis will follow up with MACo to discuss new appointments.

The June 2014 minutes were approved on a motion by Dave Dunmyer, seconded by Ann Simonetti.

LGAC Coordinator Mary Gattis reported on her activities since the June 2014 meeting. These included:

- Accompanying Chairwoman Noll to the Executive Council Meeting and Agreement signing in June 2014
- Preparing comments on the BMP Verification Framework
- Accompanying Dave Dunmyer to the MACO conference
- Coordinating one roundtable in PA, and the September 25th workshop on monitoring
- Attending many meetings of the Bay Program, including those of the Land Use and Healthy Watersheds Local Engagement workgroups

No Communications Committee Report was given, however, a brief discussion of the LGAC's visibility on Facebook took place. There will be a Facebook name change and Amy Robins will be added as an administrator. Ruby Brabo showed interested in joining the Communication Committee.

Committee members briefly reviewed updates to the Strategic Plan.

Local Leadership Outcome

Carin Bisland, Assistant Director, EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

The new Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement states that local engagement must be addressed in Management Strategies for all Outcomes. Carin solicited input from LGAC members on the Local Leadership Outcome, which reads as follows: Continually increase the knowledge and capacity of local officials on issues related to water resources and in the implementation of economic and policy incentives that will support local conservation actions.

After some discussion, the following members agreed to serve as advisors on this Outcome: Janine Burns, Kelly Porter, Ann Simonetti, Diane Davis and James Wheeler. A forum or workshop is being considered to solicit input for the Management Strategies. Reggie Parrish will be in charge of this forum. Members identified several organizations and associations which address local government training and education needs, including Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Governments, PA Star Associations (Cities, Burroughs, TWP's), Capital Region COG, Conservation Districts, Leadership Maryland, Leadership Washington, Rappahannock River Commission, Potomac Watershed Roundtable, Potomac Watershed Council, George Washington Regional Commission, Northern Neck Planning District, Middle Peninsula Planning District, Friends of the Rappahannock, Northern Neck Master Gardners, Central Shenandoah Planning District, Virginia Municipal League, PSATS, Municipal Government Academy, County Convention Meeting, National League of Cities and Prince George's County Municipal Association.

Urban Tree Canopy (UTC)

Julie Mawhorter, Mid-Atlantic Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator, USDA Forest Service/CBP

The new Watershed Agreement contains an Outcome to “Continually increase urban tree canopy capacity to provide air quality, water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. Expand urban tree canopy by 2,400 acres by 2025.” Julie informed the members about an upcoming Urban Tree Canopy Summit to gather input for the UTC Management Strategy. Ann Simonetti and Mary Gattis will attend and report back to the committee in December.

Bay Program Updates

Carin Bisland, Assistant Director, EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Carin provided Bay Program Updates reviewing slides and the Management Strategies Dashboard. Members can sign up for weekly updates via Bay Briefs and a Listserv option.

Nick DiPasquale, Director, EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Nick thanked the LGAC for all of their hard work with the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. He asked and looks forward to the committee continuing to follow BMP verification, transparency and accountability.

New Business/Announcements for the Good of the Committee/Future Agenda Items

The next LGAC Quarterly Meeting will take place December 4-5, 2014 in Easton, MD.

The LGAC members expressed their appreciation to former Virginia LGAC members, particularly Sheila Noll who served as Chair during final negotiations of the Watershed Agreement. The members thanked Dave Dunmyer for his service.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.