

NEIGHBORS OF the NORTHWEST BRANCH

BUSINESS MEETING

Jan. 3, 2018, at Home of Anne Ambler & John Fay

Board members present: James Graham, John Fay, Glenn Welch, Anne Ambler, and Larry Hush. Also attending were Laura Turbe, Maurie Kathan, Kristin Backert, Michael Evans, Laura Barnitz, and Ed Murtagh (FoSC liaison).

TREASURER'S REPORT was approved. The bank balance was \$6441.18 on Jan. 1, 2018. During the year we had receipts of \$370.31 and expenses of \$1538.57 leaving a balance of \$5272.92. Since Jan. 1, 2018 we have had receipts of \$250 and a PayPal expense of \$2.50. Giving us a new balance of \$5520.42.

MINUTES of the Dec. 6 meeting were approved.

WEB SITE: We must decide when to roll out the new site. [See below]

CLEANUPS: Kristin put out a flyer to her apartment complex for the Broad Acres cleanup on Jan. 13. She will make sure St. Camillus people know about the cleanup. Laura already has 8 lined up for the Lamberton cleanup on Jan. 15. This is near Northwood HS so students may be interested. She talked with Henry Coppola of MNCPPC about it. We need to get photos of the cleanups for the web site. Also, Larry will forward sign-in sheets to Kristin and Laura that have liability statements.

MEETING SITES: Any suggestions for sites more central to the watershed? The Kemp Mill Estates Activity Bldg. in Kemp Mill Local Park was suggested.

CALENDAR:

1. Ross Feldner, VP of the Rachel Carson Landmark Alliance will be our presenter at the February meeting, and will lead the spring bird walk in March or April, but where? We prefer the NW Branch but he prefers the Patuxent Refuge.
2. Other activities: Laura Barnitz said that One Montgomery teams up with the Rotary Club to plant trees. Laura Turbe & Larry suggested yanking invasives at Lamberton. Ed suggested a frog watch to train in identifying frog calls. Other suggestions included a creek critters event, a Mountain Laurel/vernal pool/blue bell hike in April or May.

3. Maurie is interested in biking the lower paved portion of the trail down to the boat dock on the Anacostia. Ed said that he had done that with FoSC. June 2 was picked as the start at the Beltway or Adelphi Mill, depending on parking.
4. In observance of Black History Month in Feb. there will be a hike along the Underground RR Adventure Trail. Members will be encouraged to visit either the African-American Museum upstream in Sandy Spring or downstream in North Brentwood.
5. April 21 is the AWS cleanup, in which we will participate.

WEB SITE: James will have calendar info to Anne/Glenn in 72 hours. The debut will be Jan. 20. Glenn can set PayPal up by Jan. 7. We should send pictures for the web to Glenn or Anne.

INCOME: Maurie will work with James on a fund-raising appeal.

BOARD ELECTION: Maurie, Laura Turbe, Kristin, Michael and Laura Barnitz all agreed to stand for election to the board. Election is at the March meeting.