NNWB BOARD MEETING, White Oak Library
November 5, 2019

Attendees: Board: Laura Barnitz, Maurie Kathan; nonboard: Jason Hornick, John Kester, Jim Padgett, Tom & Sue Otwell, Miriam Johnson, Ed Murtagh, Larry Hush, John Fay, Melinda Cavin, Anne Ambler

Board Business
• Treasurer’s Report
  o Presented by Larry Hush
  o Current balance is $3,668.73
    ▪ We have spent to date $530.64
    ▪ We still have E-tapestry $509 to be paid this year.
• Need to approve minutes from previous month over email as we do not have a quorum.

Recent Events Recap and Updates
• Stream Cleanups (~ 5 minutes)
  o September 29, Lamberton (Laura Turbe )
    ▪ 12 people, 13 bags of trash, 5 recycling, 2 tires
  o October 5, Burnt Mills (Larry Hush)
    ▪ 3-4 bag of trash
  o October 26, Burnt Mills (Jason Hornick)
    ▪ 17 people
    ▪ White oak middle school teacher reached out.
  o November 2, W. Hyattsville Metro (Maurie Kathan)
    ▪ 2 volunteers, 2 bags of trash, 2 bags of recycling
• H20 Summit, November 2
  o Jason and Anne reported (Laura Barnitz and Ed Murtagh also attended)
  o A major topic at the Summit was salt management.
    ▪ WSSC discussed some tips and tricks for salt abatement.
      • Clear walkways of snow first. You will then need less salt or none. If you wait, the snow can turn to ice, which will require more de-icer.
      • Call 311 if you see salt piles and the county will come remove them.
Montgomery County has changed to brine from salt crystals.

- Salt usage has increased because of complaints from people who want to drive immediately after a snowfall.
- They suggested that we should complain to elected officials about excess road salt usage.
  - Maurie suggested we add salt information to the website in the news section. [It was added to the Homepage where it’s more visible.]

**Upcoming Events**
- Stream cleanup November 9, NW Branch at Lane Manor & University Hills parks (Leader: Ben Simasek)
  - 10am to 12pm

**New and Ongoing Issues**
- I270/Beltway Expansion
  - Anne Ambler presented
  - Board of public works voted in June to approve using a P3 (Public Private Partnership).
  - Comptroller Franchot set conditions on his vote:
    - No property to be taken before the Board of Public Works gives final approval to the P3.
    - P3 contractor will permit mass transit bus access on toll lanes for free.
    - 10% of net toll proceeds, after P3 contractor is reimbursed construction costs, will go to counties for regional transit.
    - MDOT will study feasibility of Monorail.
      - Order of construction switched:
        - 1-270 south
        - 1-270 north
        - 1-495
      - C.E. Elrich proposed an alternate plan:
        - Routes Beltway drivers to the ICC between the spur and I-95, avoiding the need to take parkland and houses along the Beltway.
        - On October 23, Mr. Elrich clarified that the managed lanes shown on his map would be reversible.
- MNCPPC sent a letter stating that MDOT couldn’t take park land since it was set up by a federal act (Capper-Cramton Act).
- November 4 was the “Road Show” where MDOT presents the proposed new projects.
  - MDOT stated that vehicle miles traveled are up, while fuel tax revenues are down—because of more efficient vehicles.
  - Secretary of Transportation says they are lowering bridge and tunnel tolls on motorcycles and some other vehicles.
  - MDOT noted an increase in road fatalities.
  - MDOT has rejected the ICC diversion plan because of the additional miles.

Maurie suggested we send out a call your representative push. [done]

- Hyattsville Happenings (Anne, Maurie ~5 minutes)
  - Hyattsville Middle School Magruder Park Proposal
    - They have decided to build it on the existing site rather than in Magruder Park in the NWB floodplain.

- FOSC Synthetic Turf on Ellsworth
  - The developer wants to permanently close Ellsworth Dr. between Fenton St. and Georgia Ave. in Silver Spring and install synthetic turf there.
  - The October 10th public meeting was the first time people heard about it.
    - NNWB will send a letter supporting FoSC’s letter, which presented strong objections to the use of artificial turf.
      - Maurie suggested we contact people.

- Social Media Planning
  - Educational stuff doesn’t need approval.
  - Maybe we can use it for advocacy but will need board approval.
  - As of right now we won’t use it for advertising but maybe we can increase.

- Listserv migration
- Jason and Anne will work on setting up google.io listserv and we will send out notices.
- **Year-End, 2020 Fundraising**
  - Make decisions over email
  - Membership drives
- **Montgomery Volunteers**
  - Laura Barnitz will be looking into setting it up for NNWB so that we can post directly rather than through the Parks Dept.