

Richland Countywide Stormwater Consortium

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 15, 2009

1 PM – 3 PM

Columbia Chamber of Commerce

2nd Floor Meeting Room

930 Richland St, Columbia, SC

Type of Meeting: Development of Stormwater Education Plan and Decision-Making for the Richland Countywide Stormwater Education Consortium

Meeting Facilitators: Mary Nevins and Katie Giacalone, Clemson Carolina Clear and Keith Anthony, Richland County

1:00-1:10	Welcome & Meeting Purpose Introductions	Mary Nevins, Clemson's Carolina Clear
1:10-1:30	Outreach Activity Updates	All present
1:30-1:40	Approval of Logo	All present
1:40-2:10	Questions and Concerns about Activity Reporting for the 2008-2009 Annual Report	All present
2:10 – 2:20	Consortium Announcement Media Event	Mary Nevins, All Present
2:20 – 2:50	Education Plan Round Table Discussion of Stormwater Outreach in Richland County for the 2009-2010 Year	Mary Nevins & Keith Anthony, Richland County DPW <i>All should participate!</i>
2:50 – 3:00	Next Steps	Mary Nevins & Srinivas Valavala, Richland County DPW

Note: Parking is available BEHIND the building. Please only utilize spots posted as "Columbia Chamber."

Notes from the Meeting

Attendance:

Keith Anthony	Richland County Stormwater
Geoff Smith	BP Barber
Christine Murphy	Arcadia Lakes
Jessica Artz	Gills Creek Watershed Association
Jason Craig	USC Green Quad
Srinivas Valavala	Richland County Stormwater
Hugh Caldwell	Richland SWCD
Jason Wimberly	Carolinas Ready Mixed Concrete Association
Joe Kocy	Richland County Planning
Mary Jane Henderson	Richland SWCD
Mary Nevins	Clemson Carolina Clear

Mary Nevins called the meeting to order. Everyone introduced themselves. Joe Kocy had a special guest, Jason Wimberly from Carolinas Ready Mixed Concrete Association. CRMCA is providing samples of pervious concrete for the Richland County Administration Building's lobby project, and he is interested in partnering with us for educational programs involving stormwater BMP's, particularly pervious concrete systems.

It was proposed that we change RCSC from quarterly to monthly, and the group felt a regularly scheduled date and time was preferable to Doodle surveys and flexible dates. Everyone present felt that the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00pm was an acceptable time. That item will be submitted for approval by those not present via email. Jason Craig volunteered the USC Green Quad as a location for the next meeting.

The meeting began with a review of recent stormwater education activities:

- 4H2O Pontoon Classroom on Lake Murray
- Completion of the RCSC logo
- Completion of the RC stormwater hotline magnet design
- Gills Creek Watershed Association was recognized in *The State* newspaper

This was followed by a discussion of upcoming education events

- Richland 101 for Kids, July 23
- Rain garden installation at Bookman Rd. ES, October
- Rain barrel workshop in Sumter, August 21
- Stormwater Institute, September 22-25
- Greenways Conference October 22-25 (Hugh Caldwell)
- Press conference and media event for the RC Administration Building lobby project, which features stormwater BMP's, such as a rain garden, rain barrel, and pervious concrete. The group discussed including storm drain marking information at this event. August 18. (Joe Kocy)
- Cleanup event for the lower portion of Gills Creek, August 1. The cleanup will not only remove trash, but also larger debris and branches in order to make the waterway accessible to kayaks and canoes. (Jessica Artz)
- Design proposal for four new fire stations. Jason Wimberly suggested including pervious pavement in the design specifications. If this happens, it would be a great opportunity for

a demonstration workshop for contractors. Pervious paving at a Wal-mart shopping center on Killian road was mentioned as a model.

Mary Nevins reminded the group to submit any stormwater activities from June '08 – June '09 for inclusion in the Year 1 annual report. This is very important, as the 15th was supposed to be the deadline, and not all activities are in. Activities can be submitted directly to Mary by phone or email if there are issues with the online database.

The consortium announcement/resolution signing media event was mentioned, but not discussed as details have not been determined at this time.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing the 2009-2010 Education Plan. It is crucial that our initiatives be comprehensive in terms of target audience and target pollutant. Srinivas Valavala informed us that the stormwater department now has a prioritized list of the most significant pollutants to Richland County waterways, and it was agreed that this should be referred to as we develop the Education Plan. Fecal coliform bacteria and total suspended solids are currently the pollutants of most concern. The following are new ideas submitted by the group for inclusion in the plan, by target audience category.

General Public

- Press releases in the Free Times Newspaper (Joe Kocy)
- Articles in the Gills Creek Newsletter (Jessica Artz)
- Articles for the Environmental Education Alliance of SC newsletter (Mary Jane Henderson)
- Articles in the Conservation District Newsletter (Mary Jane Henderson)
- Water Environment Federation Conference will include Stormwater presentations for South Carolina. Srini Valavala and Geoff Smith are to be stormwater representatives, and proposed giving a presentation on education. (March 2010)
- Presence at USC Sustainability Week and Earth Day Fairs (Jason Craig)
- Booths at Farmers Markets at USC Greene St. and Whaley St.
- Presentation for Gills Creek Annual Meeting, Sept. 13th (Jessica Artz)
- Stormwater public workshops, to be held at four locations around the county in August and September. Topics include new ordinances on leaf bagging and buffers. (Joe Kocy)

Youth/Teachers

- Utilization of existing learning stations featuring stormwater equipment. (Srini Valavala)
- 4H2O camps. Sandhills REC was discussed as a venue.
- GCWA will be working with Dent Middle School in Arcadia Lakes to develop and implement a watershed curriculum. (Jessica Artz)
- Green Steps projects with local schools (Mary Nevins)

Professionals: Contractors/Developers/Engineers

- Presentation for development firms on how to include pervious pavers when designing stormwater systems. Jason Wiberly mentioned a successful workshop of this type in Bluffton that his firm was involved in.
- The group discussed development firms views of county sponsored versus vendor sponsored presentations. (Geoff Smith)

Elected and appointed officials

- Presence at public discussions of stormwater regulations. It was mentioned that 300 people attended the first reading of the introduction of proposed stormwater regulations, most of whom were poorly informed and unhappy with the regulations.
- It was uncertain whether the Chamber of Commerce was a good venue for influencing elected officials, although they are influential for businesses and commercial citizens.
- Presentations for the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce is felt to be very influential with the County Council. The best opportunity for this presentation may be to coordinate it with discussion of the work at Cary Lake. An elected official from Cary Lakes should be the speaker, such as Steve Brown or Rich Thomas.
- Joint presentations for Lexington and Richland County Councils. (This was felt to be an optimistic goal.)
- Presentation for the Development Roundtable, which involve analyzing and creating new code. The principles will be developed sometime after September. Following this would be an opportune time to present to the County Council.

The discussion was concluded with ideas for homeowners and commercial citizens to be discussed at the August RCSC meeting.

Thanks to all who attended!