

Minutes for May 28, 2009 LRNow Public Policy Committee Meeting

Location: First Landing Fire Station

Start: 6:40

Attendees: Karen Forget, Ryan Ferguson, Beverly Ludford, (standing in for Chris Ludford), Mary Picardi

Meeting minutes for April 23 were read and accepted.

Next meeting: Thursday June 25 at 6:30 at First Landing Fire Station

Contacts -- Chris took Harry Diezel fishing and continued to discuss the river.

The web page is up and ready for comment and modification.

Karen updated us on the Green Ribbon Implementation Committee's continuing input to city council concerning the following: new development ordinances; a Stewardship Award Program to recognize development that meets environmental guidelines; incentive programs for energy efficient building practices; reappointment of the committee (all current members will continue to work and representation from the Tidewater Builders' Assoc. will be added). ACTION ITEM: The committee will be briefing the council on June 9. Karen asked that we contact our representatives and ask them to support the committee's recommendations.

Karen commented that new stormwater regulations are coming and could really benefit the watershed. It will be important to get this done before Gov. Kaine leaves office, and we may be able to help by writing letters of support in the fall. Karen will advise us.

Karen gave an update on the American Institute of Architects' Communities by Design award that VB has received. Meetings started mid-May and will resume in Sept. with a panel of experts selected for our area's assessed needs.

The Army Corps of Engineers is proposing a watershed restoration plan for the Lynnhaven that could become a countrywide model. There will be three community presentations. ACTION ITEM: We are urged to show our support by attending. They will be at 7PM at Princess Anne H.S. (6/17), Great Neck Rec. Center (6/25), Bayside Rec. Center (7/1).

The LRNow Symposium DVD is ready. Karen will let us know how to get one to our reps.

The fall candidate environmental forum will be on Wed., Sept. 23. All six candidates have accepted our invitation to participate. It will be held at Cape Henry Collegiate at 7PM with a meet and greet to follow. Mary will call all candidates to reconfirm and will send a letter now. Karen will send further information to them in Aug. with background, format, topics. We discussed possible moderators and panelists, and Karen will make contacts. The format we tentatively adopted would allow a 5 min. opening statement by the moderator, 1 1/2 min. response time for each candidate for 9 questions, a 2 min. each closing comment, 20 min. for questions from the floor (to be written and selected, and to possibly include e-mailed questions). The topics could include transportation, open space protection and land use, water quality, air quality, good governance, energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, uranium mining.

Beverly Ludford announced that two new fire stations will meet LEED certification.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM

Submitted by Mary Picardi