

Minutes for June 16, 2011 LRNOW Public Policy Committee (PPC)
submitted by Todd Solomon

Meeting Location: First Landing Fire Station

Meeting Start: Called to order at 4:10pm by Mary Picardi.

Attendees: (7) attendees – Mary Picardi, Todd Solomon, Bill Fleming, Brent James, Norman Cook, Ann Wright, Wendy Vaughn

Review of March minutes – Change LWV to LCV. Add “League of Conservation Voters” and “Virginia Conservation Network” to define LCV and VCN. Add why Richmond Training wasn’t so good “too close to holidays”.

Old Business

WIP/TMDL Phase II Update – Timeline requires draft by Nov. 2011. Allocations just handed out in June. Mary will send out an email that links to a website with the stats. Practices back to 2005/06 will count. There is confusion on what needs to be done and who is responsible. American Farm Bureau filed suit and CBF filed suit against this suit. HRPDC will not file suit against EPA limits. Goodlatte bill failed. Rigell voted against funding the Chesapeake Bay cleanup. Mary sent email to City Council members asking the CBF set of questions regarding TMDL & WIP.

New Business

LRNOW Position Statements - LRNOW has taken an official position opposing the coal plant and uranium mining. Todd asked if these position statements/letters of opposition could be posted on the LRNOW webpage so others could use them as needed. Mary agreed to ask Karen if this is possible.

VB Neighborhood Dredging Project – VBCC passed a resolution to have the Beaches & Waterways Commission study the overall City plan for dredging and transfer stations. It was discussed that LRNOW didn’t get involved in the single dredge transfer station because of the minor impact of that single project. Todd suggested that LRNOW may want to get involved in this new study because it will cover all of VB and could impact many of the LR ancillaries and possible water quality.

Candidate Forum

- Wed Oct 5th from 7-9pm has been selected. Karen will need to confirm with CHC.
- Aug 26th is filing deadline for candidates.
- Plan to have House and Senate together. 14 possible candidates on stage at one time.
- Princess Anne GC/Council of CGs will be a sponsor per Wendy.
- Panelists. Karen will ask Scott Harper from VA Pilot. CBF and VCN should also be considered.
- Similar format to VB City Council forum (fall 2010)
- Karen to ask CHC if they have an AV club that would video tape the forum
- Garden Clubs will put date in their yearbook calendars and online.
- LRNOW PPC could go to Old Beach Farmers market to solicit questions.

Announcements

- Landscape Practices on Sunday Nov. 6th. LRNOW is looking for native plants to sell at the event. It was suggested that the Native Plant Society and Wildflower group at the VA Aquarium should be contacted. The Garden Clubs would be happy to pass out information regarding this event.
- Hands Across the Sand – Sat 6/25, opposition to offshore drilling.
- Dinner at Croc’s – Thursday 6/23 Support for ban on uranium mining. Sponsored by CBF, LCV and Sierra Club.

Next meeting of PPC – July 21, 2011 from 4-6pm in First Landing Fire Station meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm