

Minutes for July 23, 2009 LRNOW Public Policy Committee (PPC)
submitted by Todd Solomon

Meeting Location: First Landing Fire Station

Meeting Start: Called to order at 6:45 pm by Mary Picardi.

Attendees: (6) members – Mary Picardi, Hap Chalmers, Todd Solomon, Karen Forget, Ed Gibbs, Eileen Levandoski (Sierra Club)

Previous Meeting Minutes – June 25, 2009 minutes were reviewed and accepted without change. All approved minutes will be placed on the website under the PPC committee link.

DVDs - Hap distributed copies of the Symposium to Rosemary Wilson, Del. Bob Purkey, Sen. Ken Stolle, Sen. Frank Wagner

Green Hotels Article – Green resort article planned for fall LRNOW newsletter. Article should include hotels, restaurants, events, etc. Article should also call out John Urhin's hotels.

Interaction with Contacts – Mary met with Rosemary Wilson and provided a DVD of symposium. Hap met with Rosemary Wilson, Del. Bob Purkey, Sen. Ken Stolle, Sen. Frank Wagner. Karen is trying to schedule a river trip on Aug 24th with Col. Backus of the USACE. Karen would like to also get trip(s) on the river for Anne from CBF and Mayor Sessoms.

Keeping informed – Karen recommended using Google Alerts. Specific issues related to LRNOW, should be action items for LRNOW.

Storm Water Regulations Update – 4 public hearing planned. Richmond hearing had 400 attendees. Karen spoke in support for LRNOW. At our meeting, PPC members received a copy of the Scott Harper article, joint (CBF/LRNOW) letter and a copy of Karen's hearing comments. Karen and CBF met with Virginian-Pilot for a possible editorial. 2013 is the target date for new regulations. Effective for new and re-development. Help in urban areas most. Builders are opposed. Offset purchase is possible to help re-development projects. It's been 4 years in the making and current Richmond position is thought to be 2/3 in favor and 1/3 opposed.

Candidate Forum – Still looking for a moderator. Discussion on how to regulate questions. Hap had the idea to ask the same question to all, but to allow extra time by pairs. Question asked to one pair and they have 1-1/2 minutes each to answer. Then the other 4 candidates have ½ minute to comment on the same question. Total of 12 questions will work well. Each panelist can ask 3 questions (one to each pair) and then at least 3 questions can come from the attendees (one question for each pair).

Suggested groups to get forum notice and possible contacts:

PTA – Ed Gibbs

Civic Leagues – Todd Solomon

Chamber of Commerce –

VB Vision –

Upcoming Events –

VB 3rd Precinct Citizen's Advisory Committee sponsored forums (7pm at Bayside H.S.):

- Aug. 20 candidates for Sheriff: Sen. Ken Stolle and Capt. John Bell;
- Oct. 15 candidates for 82nd District: Del. Bob Purkey and Peter Schmidt.

Next PPC meeting is August 27, 2009 at 6:30pm First Landing Fire Station

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm