SWEARING CREEK WATERSHED MEETING

November 30, 2015

Participants:	Lloyd Phillips, Davidson County Soil & Water Conservation District	Josh Monk, City of Lexington
	Guy Cornman, Davidson County Planning	Edgar Miller, CTNC/landowner
	Scott Leonard, Davidson County Planning	Wes Kimbrell, City of Lexington
	Andy Miller, Davidson County Soil & Water Conservation District	Cy Stober, PTRC
	Eglantina Minerali, City of Lexington	Joy Fields, PTRC
	Gisele Comer, City of Lexington	Trey Cleaton, City of Lexington

Introductions

Assessment & Discussion

- Cy – the characterization will be followed up by an assessment in the winter; primary concern is getting codes and ordinances correctly represented and maps
    - 1st Chapter – Intro – funding, reason for funding, history of City and County (looking for more data, resources and past photos)
- SC WWTP(< 1 MGD) closed for more than 30 years; Abbotts off of Center St also closed
- NPDES permits map – Southwood Elementary
- Salvage yard near 85 Business hit with SW fines due to poor drainage many years ago
- Guy – Airport impact? Major facility
- New industrial park – blanks will be filled in since new development will shift watershed impact
- Map of WQ sites
- Armenia soils in watershed – inclusion in other soil groups
- UC Berkley
- Soil Department – NRCS
- Flatter topography
- Surface hydrology – smaller system; 150 wetlands
- Piedmont Forest highly valuable and globally rare (hub in watershed)
- Need to include Indiana Bats
- Cy – review of local codes, ordinances and rules
    - Did not change anything from Davidson County
    - Happy to re-score the county

- Huge changes have happened in the City's land use plan
- MPOs, Zoning and Ag Districts
- Will have draft for review and adoption by Christmas
- Page 47 – Ag Preservation
    - Forestry PUV 20 acres
    - Ag PUV 10 acres
    - Wildlife conservation land 20 acres (Lloyd and Edgar added to PUV in 2008) – habitat or rare species
    - Horticulture PUV 5 acres
- Andy – definitions of farm and income generation changed but acres have not changed
- Andy – VADs enrollment has been slow since development pressures have been low
- Edgar – more development in north portion of watershed, would explain more VADs in that part

Outreach

- Crafted from past meetings, surveys and feedback
- Gisele – River Rats?
- Joy – Outreach to existing groups
- Education Campaign Vote
    - Edgar – who will do this? Where will resources come from?
        - Joy – signs @ parks – SMART; signs @ bridges – grant
        - Cy – funding exists for grant timeline; SMART can focus efforts on creek's needs
        - Edgar – Any ongoing efforts from LAC?
            - Joy – Data from work used in schools and outreach campaigns
        - Edgar – brochure says SC, can we make it apply to whole county?
            - Joy – first meeting wanted to ___ HRL and backyard conditions
    - Gisele – YPDRBA has an outreach campaign for its 57 stations including LAC station
    - Scott – grant will provide seed money and we will need to agree to maintain them
        - Cy – MPO?
    - Trey- larger brochure should have HRL map on front and smaller one should have map focused on SC
    - Stormdrain marking?
        - Joy – many of Lexington's stormdrains are owned by DOT
        - Wes – not sure of value
            - Trey – focus on neighborhoods
        - Joy – List Serve and SMART topic; marking only works well if paired with other effort
    - Guy – don't see anything about TV ads on Lexington's PA station
        - Joy – didn't register as a top 3 priority; as a few others made it because grant promised it or SMART does it already
        - Gisele – we can throw a simple ad on Channel 13

        - Cy – did it before in Thomasville
        - Joy – yes
    - Edgar – Mailings – can they include Davidson Water?
        - Gisele – Energy United? Duke?
        - Maybe a general ad for websites if not a mailer
- Josh and Wes not voting because they are new
    - Trey – Community and Business Development gets a lot of regular folks – can we have a generic brochure for distribution?
        - Joy – we have a SMART brochure; Do you want a specific style?
            - Trey – just send them to me and I will be happy to print them
- Edgar - # outreach meetings? TBD?
    - Joy – TBD. Waiting for field date
- Communications Strategy – 2x2s; rest 1s
- Audience:
    - Guy – Volunteer Fire Dept.
    - Joy – many groups already identified and generally referred to here; prioritized brochures because I feel is best first step. Does that seem like a good strategy?
        - Scott – brochures are one of our best tools
            - Guy – in Spanish is a huge asset
    - Vote – 2x2s, rest 1s
- Programs and Messages:
    - Joy – have reached out to schools in watershed. Several elementary schools in watershed who we have not gotten responses from. Do we have presences in middle schools just outside of watershed? Please help!
    - Wes – has gotten request. Will share those Yadkin Valley and W Lexington.
    - Joy – need help getting into city schools and Tyro, Southwood, Welcome, Southmont
    - Gisele – we do 2 schools a year during Earth Day Week
    - Joy – Actively doing cleanups
        - Healthy vs. unhealthy creek brochures
        - Riparian buffer benefits
- Joy – recapped buffer money discussion
    - Most relevant from Neuse River
        - Property values went down initially and then property values unaffected
    - WI/MI studies show clear value in clean waters near
    - DCFISH – had seed money but funding was not sustained. Citizen training program.
    - Scott – buffer values geared toward commissioners; they will see it as a property rights restriction
        - Edgar – are we focused on politics or landowners?
        - Cy – brief summary of new buffer lay
- Keep resources local and find grants when possible

Meeting was adjourned