



Stormwater Education



Because We All Live Downstream...

Lexington County Urbanized Area
Carolina Clear Working Group
(Temporary Title)

November 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes
Lexington County EMS Training Facility
436 Ball Park Road, Lexington, SC 29072

Attendance:

Synithia Williams, Rosemarie Nuzzo, Sid Varn, Bill Blackston, Cal Sawyer

1. The meeting began at 9:30 a.m. Bill welcomed those who came for the meeting. He reminded everyone that it is important to have active participation from each municipality as decisions are made for the direction of the program. He expressed disappointment that there was a small turnout for this meeting. Sid pointed out that the Town of Springdale had hired a new administrator. Bill and Synithia agreed to get the contact information for the new administrator.
2. Bill asked if there were any problems with the minutes from the July 12, 2007 meeting. There were none and the minutes were accepted.
3. The issue that there needed to be a person dedicated to take minutes at these meetings was brought up. It was decided that the task would float between members and each member would take turns keeping the minutes.
4. Synithia gave an update on the progress of the NPDES permit. She noted that there was a new effective date of December 1, 2007. She also mentioned that the Qualifying Local Program (QLP) language remained in the permit even after the County submitted comments to have this removed. Lexington County plans to write a letter to DHEC expressing their disagreement with the provision remaining.
5. Bill reviewed the results of the survey emailed out Carolina Clear participants. It was discovered that there are educational systems in other municipalities that can be used as part of this program. Cal mentioned that it would be a good idea to start training volunteers that express an interest in our program. Sid pointed out that the Municipal Association of SC (MASC) gives educational programs for municipal officials and that this may be a good educational partner. Cal stated that the Center for Watershed Protection's Code and Ordinance worksheet is a good tool for communities to use to determine how to make codes and ordinances coincide with achieving water quality. It was decided by all that it was a good idea to move around to the different municipalities for meetings. It was also decided by all that it would be a good idea to email the survey results to all participants due to low attendance at this meeting.

6. Synithia suggested that the Lexington program follow the same format at the City of Columbia's CPAC committee. She suggested a large media event be held to publicize the signing of the joint resolution by all municipalities. Another press conference would follow after completion of the strategic plan. She also suggested that each municipality appoint a citizen to help with the development of the strategic plan. Everyone liked this idea and decided that February was a good time for the initial media event. Sid pointed out that there is a large MASC event in Columbia in February and that our press conference should not conflict with that.
7. Due to low attendance it was decided to email out the name choices that were suggested in the survey to participants and have them vote on the response. Everyone agreed to eliminate two name suggestions (Lake Murray/Three Rivers Stormwater Education Consortium and Three Rivers Stormwater Education Consortium) before emailing the rest of the group. Cal pointed out that removing these names may make it harder for citizens to relate to the group. Bill asked if the remaining names would make other entities less likely to be interested in joining the consortium. It was agreed that if other entities wish to join, another press conference could be held to publicize the addition of a new partner and the name can be changed at that time if necessary.
8. Cal suggested that the discussion on the strategic plan be tabled until the municipal appointees are made. Everyone agreed.
9. Bill brought to everyone's attention that there are plenty of groups and events who are working on environmental issues in the Midlands area and if individuals were interested in becoming involved let him know. He also suggested that he and possibly Synithia go around to each municipality in order to get to know each member better and learn more about their community.
10. Before the meeting adjourned it was decided that another smaller work session be scheduled for December to discuss the joint resolution and bring members who missed this meeting up to speed. A larger meeting in January would be held to discuss the details of the press conference. Sid suggested that the group meet later in the day in an effort to increase attendance and provide a timeframe for the meeting. Bill also suggested that a response be required from members concerning attendance for future meetings.
11. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.