

PAPILLION CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP



MEETING MINUTES

Communications Team Meeting

**November 29, 2007 – 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM – Small Conference Room
Natural Resources Center, 8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE**

Attendants:

The following were in attendance: Joe Soucie (LaVista), Lisa Bliss (Bennington), Laurie Carrette Zook (HDR), Phil Young (IMS), Kent Holm (Douglas County), James Kee (Omaha), Marty Grate (Omaha), Nina Cudahy (Omaha), Emmett Egr (P-MRNRD), Paul Woodward (P-MRNRD), Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD), and Amanda Grint (P-MNRD)

Purpose

A meeting of the Partnership Communications Team was held on the above date in order to discuss topics stated in the attached agenda.

1. Introductions

- Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD) opened the meeting and an agenda and sign-up sheet were distributed.

2. Watershed Studies

➤ *1 on 1 Communication*

Phil Young (IMS) indicated that he had not yet sent the information about which public officials have already been contacted. He stated that he would send the list to Paul Woodward (P-MRNRD) tomorrow. The contacts are about 60-70% complete, not 90% complete as Steve Wolf (IMS) had stated at the last Partnership meeting. Phil is going to check with Mark Wayne (Sarpy) to get an update on the status of meetings. To date, Mark Wayne has been the individual making most of these contacts. The current plan is for Mark to continue with these and have additional Partnership members help when needed. Once it is determined who and how many individuals are left to contact, a plan will be put together to decide which Partnership member is best suited to handle.

IMS will also provide the partners with the one page talking paper that they have been using to ask the public officials for support of the project. It was noted that a few more points should be added to the talking paper. The additional points are:

- Possibly add some information from the NRD public survey
- Add the fact that the watershed management plan must be completed by July 2009
- Possibly include some information from the TMDL study completed by the Department of Environmental Quality.

➤ *Speakers Bureau*

The group reviewed the draft Announcement of Speakers document. Several suggestions were made and it was decided that the electronic format would be emailed out to the group and comments could be made and sent back to Paul Woodward or Amanda Grint (P-MRNRD) by December 6th. The civic organization list was also distributed for the group's input. Joe Soucie (LaVista) indicated that the Papillion website had information regarding homeowner associations with in the city. He also has some information on the LaVista associations that he will forward to Emmett. Marty Grate (Omaha) indicated that the homeowner associations for Omaha are also listed on the City website and that a current list of developers may be available from the City or MOBA. He indicated that while there are over 100 groups about only 20 or so are active and might want a speaker. It was decided by the group that all homeowner associations should receive the mailing even though the likelihood for a response was slim. Lisa Bliss (Bennington) noted that the Bennington Jaycees might be a good group to try and talk with.

Mark Wayne (Sarpy) has been the primary spokesperson for the group with additional partnership members as alternates. The alternates to date are Paul Woodward and Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD), Marty Grate and Nina Cudahy (Omaha), Kent Holm (Douglas), and Joe Soucie (LaVista).

Laurie Carrette-Zook (HDR) noted that it might be helpful to have a "kit" ready for the presenters. The kit could include the PowerPoint presentation, the talking paper, fact sheets and any other materials that the partnership members feel is relevant. This would help to make the presentations more uniform. Marty Grate (Omaha) pointed out that possibly the PowerPoint should be revised to include some of the public survey information that the NRD recently obtained. Marlin Petermann (P-MRNRD) discussed the need for additional slides to be added to show photographs of LID improvements, possibly a rain garden or pervious pavement. Paul Woodward (P-MRNRD) will revise the PowerPoint and email out for comments.

Phil Young (IMS) stated that the same talking papers that are used for the 1 on 1 communications with the public officials could be modified to be used during the civic organization talks.

It was determined that the mailer would be sent out after the Civic Organization list is updated (by December 6th) and the response would be monitored. If little or no response is received it was suggested by Lisa Bliss (Bennington) that the organizations are called as a follow up. Nina Cudahy (Omaha) offered the assistance of city clerks to help with those calls if it becomes necessary.

➤ *Preparation for Public Forums*

○ *When and Where?*

Paul Woodward (P-MNRD) indicated that six proposed locations were being considered with possible locations listed in the Public Outreach and Involvement Plan. Laurie Carrette-Zook (HDR) thought that the timeframe for the public forums should begin in mid-February in order to best correspond with the Stage IV results. Discussions were opened on the locations of these meetings and the times. The best time for the public meetings was determined by the group to be from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. Community board and commission meeting times were discussed so that these dates could be avoided. The following seven locations and estimated dates were chosen by the group:

UNO Alumni Center, 6001 Dodge St., February 19, 2008
Northwest High School, 8204 Crown Point Ave., February 21, 2008
Papillion-LaVista South HS, 10799 Highway 370 Papillion, February 25, 2008
Millard West High School, 5710 S 176 Ave, February 27, 2008
Bellevue Lied Activity Center, 2700 Arboretum Dr. Bellevue, February 28, 2008
Dana College, 2848 College Dr., Blair, March 4, 2008
Concordia High School, 15656 Fort St., March 6, 2008

Amanda Grint (P-MRNRD) will look in to reserving these venues and report back to the group at the December 20th Partnership meeting.

○ *Plans for news release and invitations*

Nina Cudahy (Omaha) and Marty Grate (Omaha) indicated that beyond individual invitations an advertisement in the Omaha World Herald was the next most effective tool to getting the word out. Nina indicated that the cost of the advertisement could possibly come from the Stormwater funding. Many other forms of distribution were discussed and are listed below:

- Contact civic groups and neighborhood associations using the list from the Speakers Bureau
- Utilize the television station Community Calendars on line and for broadcast
- Traffic message boards and meeting location marquis
- Post meeting notices in libraries, county buildings, city halls, etc.
- News releases
- Notification on website
- Radio shows such as KFAB local talk shows, Grow Omaha
- Television shows such as Kaleidoscope or morning news programs
- Cox Communication public access channel
- Possible inclusion in school mailings

○ *Boards, fact sheets and other presentation materials*

Fact sheets have been circulated for some time now. Paul Woodward (P-MRNRD) asked that the group review and send any changes that they may have by the end of the day. The production of one more board will be necessary to display the Stage IV results.

3. Other Items of Interest

- The public open house to present the revised FIRM maps for West Papillion Creek is scheduled for December 6th from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. Paul Woodward (P-MRNRD) asked that some partnership members be present to man the PCWP booth during the open house. If you are able to attend please contact Paul Woodward via email by Monday December 3rd.
- Kent Holm announced that there would be invitation out soon for a public meeting to present the Stream Asset Inventory Information. The meeting will be held on December 13th from 4:30 to 6:30 PM at the Douglas County offices. Look for the email invitation soon.

4. Next Meeting Dates

- The next full Partnership meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 20, 2007 at 10:00 AM at the Papio Missouri NRD office.

5. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00 AM. An agenda, attendance list, and the handouts passed out at the meeting are available upon request.

Please contact Amanda Grint at 444-6222 regarding any questions or comments concerning these meeting minutes.

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