

## Charlottesville Water Resource Protection Program Advisory Committee

### Final Minutes for Meeting #14

Date: August 7, 2017; 3pm

Location: City Space

Attendees:

*Advisory Committee Members:* Brian Becker, Morgan Butler, Dustin Greene, Rebecca Quinn, Michael Ramsey, Trey Steigman

*City Staff:* Dan Sweet, Bob Brown

*Public:* Jeff Adkins, Anne Coates

- Agenda: At Ms. Quinn's request, the AC agreed to add back to the agenda a "Comments from the Public" item for this and all future meetings. Mr. Becker explained he had removed it from the current agenda only because no one from the public typically shows up.
- Prior meeting's minutes: The draft meeting minutes for the committee's April 17, 2017 meeting were approved with no changes.
- Staff Updates: Mr. Sweet offered updates on a few items:
  - (1) The City has reissued and executed the Memorandum of Agreement for the CCAP incentive program. The only noteworthy change is that administrative costs had formerly been handled as a sliding scale; they have been made a constant in the new MOA.
  - (2) Staff recently had a kick-off meeting with EPA Region III on a joint program to promote public-private and market-based approaches to stormwater innovation. The program comes with a \$50,000 grant for the City's stormwater program. More information on the program will be provided at the AC's October meeting.

Staff Presentation: Mr. Sweet went through a draft version of the presentation he will be making to City Council in September as an update on the Stormwater Utility Program. A final version of the presentation will be available later in August. [final presentation available at <http://www.charlottesville.org/home/showdocument?id=59364>.] Some points of discussion included:

- The current impervious surface base layer is from 2013 and is updated regularly based on permit data.
  - It will take roughly 12-18 months to get the master plan projects moving forward.
  - Overall, staff feels the utility program is healthy. Revenues have been spent for the intended purposes of the program, and opportunities for cost efficiencies and savings have been realized.
- Discussion of Credits, Incentives, and Stewardship Programs: The AC had a general discussion about how to strengthen and increase the public's use of these programs. One problem is that a cost-share and reimbursement format does not work for low-income residents who do not have the capital to provide for a project. The AC recognized that the utility fee is generally too low to stimulate much interest in the existing credits and incentives programs, so thoughts turned to whether the AC could create some type of stewardship recognition program. Various ideas

were discussed including similar programs in other jurisdictions, such as a “Green Gardener” certification, but the general consensus of the AC was that none seemed to fit the City’s utility fee circumstances well enough to justify the resources necessary to implement and oversee it.

- Other Items:

- Mr. Sweet noted that staff would be presenting a new five-year business plan to City Council next summer. Staff’s primary focus areas for the next year will be continuing progress with the rehabilitation program and moving forward with Master Plan jobs.
- Mr. Ramsey informed the AC that he was no longer a resident of Charlottesville and was unsure whether that impacts his ability to continue to serve on the AC, though he said he desired to continue doing so. No AC members voiced reservations about his continuing to serve as long as doing so is consistent with the AC’s by-laws.
- Ms. Quinn noted that the City’s Neighborhood Development Services department is updating the City’s Comprehensive Plan and pointed out that two draft chapters have been posted that include information about stormwater. She urged AC members to review those chapters and submit comments as individual AC members. Mr. Becker offered to provide links to the draft chapters to AC members.
- The AC’s next meeting will be October 30, 2017.

- Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately 5pm.