

Meeting Notes

January 15, 2015 • PTRC Conference Room, Kernersville Office • 2pm - 4pm

Attendees DJ Seneres, City of Archdale; Chester Patterson, City of Burlington; Stacy Tolbert, Rockingham County; Greg Patton, City of Randleman; Cy Stober, PTRC; Brandon Parker, Town of Gibsonville; Michael Rhoney, City of Asheboro; Joy Fields, PTRC; Elizabeth Jernigan, PTRC; Cy Stober, PTRC. Josh Johnson, AWCK; Morgan Huffman, City of Thomasville; Montrena W. Hadley, City of Mebane; and Julie Reid, Town of Summerfield; attended via GoToMeeting.

Welcome: Joy welcomed board members. Liz announced that she is stepping down from her position as Stormwater SMART administrator and is now a transportation planner. If anyone wants a bicycle or pedestrian plan for their municipality Liz is your contact. If you have any questions regarding Stormwater SMART please direct those to Joy who is now the Stormwater SMART administrator.

Program Update: We've worked with over 2,000 citizens this quarter, the majority of those being students and the public at festivals. Joy has spent a significant amount of time out of the office in schools specifically in Asheboro, Summerfield, Oak Ridge, Haw River, Randleman, Davidson County Thomasville, Archdale and Trinity. Joy used the "Water Quality Ask the Bugs" in over half the programs because it is an effective teaching tool, students and teachers love it and the cost is minimal. This program also lets Joy determine the municipality students consider home. Students attending Haw River Elementary surprised Joy by being from Green Level, Haw River, Burlington, Graham and even Mebane. Scouts from Elon, Summerfield and Thomasville were reached at the November STEM Merit Badge College. Festivals in Randleman and Lexington fell on the same day. Joy attended the Lexington BBQ festival and found that about 90% of the attendees before 11:00 am were from Davidson County with most living in Lexington. Liz and Greg attended the Randleman NASCAR Days and found that a lot of residents had dead dogs. Greg also learned that Liz likes corn dogs. Randleman will be having a food truck festival June 19th and 20th.

Materials: The Winter Newsletter was available for each community to take 25 copies back to their offices, town halls and libraries. If members need more brochures please ask for them via email and they will be mailed out to you directly. There is a new template for the brochures and if the Board approves of the new template all of the brochures will be updated. A survey monkey survey will be sent out to gauge member's opinions on the old vs new brochures. The new brochures will look nice if/when we use professional printing services and that may play a role in transitioning to the new brochure template.

AmeriCorps Member Joining Staff: An opportunity to host an AmeriCorps member through Project GEOS (Growing Environmental Opportunities through Service) presented itself in November and we found out in January that we will be hosting an AmeriCorps member. This is a partnership with Conservation Trust of North Carolina. This individual joining Stormwater SMART staff will learn how to provide effective direct education and when their skills meet the needs of the Stormwater SMART board

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and the teachers they will begin conducting outreach at Fairs and Festivals and in the classroom. With Liz leaving this opportunity was necessary. Joy's time that is freed up by this AmeriCorps member will be spent developing an internship program for local university and community college students. This will permanently enhance the Stormwater SMART program.

Grants: Cy let members know that we are always here to be a partner on grant projects. We are also here to write a letter of support for grants that Stormwater SMART members apply for independently. This year the Clean Water Management Trust Fund application is fast approaching and does not include stormwater infrastructure. CWMTF will support acquisition, greenway development and restoration. Stormwater Infrastructure funding is now moved over to the Division of Water which also has the CDBG program. The EPA has a new Environmental Education grant that has a "Local Grants" focus and has more money available for the country. The application deadline for the EPA EE grant is March 6th. Duke Energy Water Resources Fund is a grant program through 2016 that will fund acquisition, education, stream restoration, management plans and research. The link is: <http://www.nccommunityfoundation.org/page/other-grant-opportunities/duke-energy-water-resource-fund-grants> and the deadline is May 15, 2015, or November 15, 2015. We are happy to be a partner on this Duke Energy Water Resources fund or to prepare a letter of support for your project. The Duke Energy fund may have a quick delivery of the funds but we applied for funding with Elkin in the November 20th cycle and have not heard back, even though the project is supposed to have a February 1st start date. This Duke fund does not pay for any administration. If you would like to have PTRC involved in a Duke funded project let us know. We are also happy to try to pair it with a 205(j) grant that is only available to council of governments to cover the administration cost.

Adjourn: Expect a doodle poll to determine if the third Thursday of January, April, July and October is the best time for our quarterly meetings. Greg and D.J. want to keep this date and if everyone likes this date then it will stay as it is. Joy may not be able to attend the April 16th meeting but if that is the best time for the board then Cy will lead the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned and the next meeting date is **To Be Determined, but likely April 16th**, at 2:00pm in the Kernersville Conference Room.