

May 17, 2005 Opequon Project Team meeting 5:45-8:00 p.m. James Rumsey Technical Institute

Please see Excel spreadsheet for attendance list. I sent this to the e-mailing list shortly after May 17, but will be happy to re-send to anyone who is interested. About 17 people in attendance including myself (Alana) and the 3 people from West Virginia University.

6:15 We went around the room for introductions, then Alana introduced Dr. Alan Collins from WVU who led the discussion for about 40 minutes. Results are in a separate Word document circulated to the group; let Alana know if you need a copy.

7:00 discussed whether to split into committees for the group's future, with Urban/suburban and Agriculture (possibly to be renamed rural to include houses on 20 acres) being the only 2 we came up with. Tonight's group is heavily weighted toward urban/suburban interest, so it's not clear whether splitting up from here on out is a good idea.

7:10 discussed an Opequon Creek Watershed Plan and the fact that Alana would like to "pull one together" as our planning progresses. This would be a potentially useful document for other planning entities, such as county planning commissions.

7:20 discussed the concept of an Urban Education Team and how Alana would like at least one representative from this group's Agriculture/Rural committee and Urban/Suburban committee to help her with this. This team would follow up on outreach project ideas. Again, still unclear whether this is the best way to organize ourselves.

7:30 discussed prioritizing areas within the watershed and prioritizing BMPs based on effectiveness and ease of funding, etc. This was tabled until the next meeting when the needed information (land use percentages, etc.) might be available for us to view.

7:40 we split into an agriculture/rural group which looked at aerial photos on Peter Vila's laptop, and an urban/suburban group that looked at aerial photos and data layers on Twila Carr's laptop. That group chose her as their chairperson, pending more clarification of the tasks/role.

Most of the homework we left with was to continue networking and learning what other planning efforts and maps were out there to help us. Alana agreed to pursue the tools necessary to do the project and geographic prioritization, as well as to find a good map for planning and marking progress.

Adjourned around 8:00 p.m.