

Lake Ballinger/McAleer Creek Watershed Forum
Lake Forest Park City Hall
Council Chambers
Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2011

Members Present

Mayor Jerry Smith, Chair (Mountlake Terrace), Councilmember Don Fiene, Vice Chair (Lake Forest Park), Councilmember D.J. Wilson (Edmonds)

Staff Present

Curt Brees (Mountlake Terrace Public Works Director), Frank Zenk (Lake Forest Park Public Works Director), Aaron Halverson (Lake Forest Park Environmental Programs Manager), Mike Shaw (Mountlake Terrace Stormwater Program Manager), Jerry Shuster (Edmonds Stormwater Engineering Program Manager), David Cline (City of Lake Forest Park City Manager), Lauren Broudy (Lake Forest Park Intern)

Others Present

Mayor Dave Hutchinson (Lake Forest Park), Jake Johnston (The Johnston Group), Tricia Shoblom (DOE), Ron Rutledge

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Jerry Smith called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. at Lake Forest Park City Hall. The agenda for the May 24 meeting was approved. Minutes for the April 26, 2011 meeting were approved as amended. The last sentence under “IV. Public Comments” were amended as follows: “Mr. Shuster reported that in those areas where the soils cannot take more water, the City of Edmonds is installing an underground detention vault to collect the water.”

II. Legislative Agenda

a. USACE Request

Curt Brees reported that during the Forum’s trip to Washington D.C., Senator Maria Cantwell offered to facilitate a meeting between the Forum and the US Army Corps of Engineers to discuss options on funding and eligibility. Mr. Brees stated that he received a call from Nancy Chin, USACE Program Manager for Continuing Authorities Program, regarding scheduling a special work session in late June to review various programs and authorities they have and how the Corps partners with other agencies to carry out programs. Mr. Brees explained that it would give the Forum an opportunity to present its accomplishments and allow time for open discussion between the Forum and Corps. Mr. Brees suggested that the Forum send out notice on the work session to be held in place of the regularly scheduled Forum meeting in June.

III. Forum Action Update

a. Letter regarding phosphorus to stores and lake residents

A motion was made and seconded to approve the letter regarding phosphorus as written and send out to the big box stores. Motion passed.

b. Aqua Dam Information

Aaron Halverson reported that there are videos online showing that Aqua Dam appears relatively easy to deploy and it seems like an effective temporary flood reduction alternative.

Councilmember DJ Wilson requested that Jerry Shuster send an electronic link to the Lake Ballinger Community Association.

IV. Update Edmonds/Mountlake Terrace Interlocal Agreement

Mike Shaw gave a status report on the Interlocal Agreement (ILA), which is a funding agreement to implement projects listed in the capital improvement plan for joint responsibility between Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace. He added that it includes the first two projects under the upper McAleer Creek/Lake Ballinger/Hall Creek Phase I of the Capital Improvement Plan that deals with McAleer Creek, level of Lake Ballinger in terms of the flood plain analysis and identification of a 100-year flood event. Mr. Shaw stated that Mountlake Terrace would take the lead and act as fiscal agent and work together with the City of Edmonds.

Mr. Shaw provided an overview of the scope of work and tasks leading to information to develop permitting and implement the recommendations of the study including modifications of culverts that remove barriers to flow to reduce flooding and improve fish passage and habitat. He added the next steps include developing project specifications and cost estimates, and a 2-year plan to complete the engineering. Mr. Shaw explained Task 1 includes the ongoing collection of flow data that will be used to build into the ultimate model for the basin and will continue to be modified over time.

Councilmember Wilson asked Mr. Shaw and Mr. Shuster to identify obstacles to getting this project done next year. He added he would like to have all data by August so he can provide it to the city for developing the budget.

V. Update from Lake Forest Park

Aaron Halverson reported that Lake Forest Park is still working on the McAleer Creek Bypass and construction should be completed this summer.

The Forum discussed letters from John Greenway addressed to Lake Ballinger/McAleer Creek Forum Members and to Mayor Jerry Smith. Chair Smith reported that the City of Mountlake Terrace had responded to Mr. Greenway's concerns previously and because the work is not related to the Lake Ballinger Watershed Forum, the City is drafting another response to the most recent letter.

Mr. Brees gave a brief overview of the Hall Creek Culvert Removal Project. He stated that the project will have benefit and relieve some flooding to adjacent residents, and is a much larger project that will remove fish passage barriers, enhance habitat and improve sewer and waterlines.

VI. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Next meeting date is to be determined. The location will be in Mountlake Terrace.