April 25, 2014

SWCS Monthly Call

Agenda:

* Election results and council certification
* updating of the website
* status of water conference presentation
* likely attendees at national SWCS meeting in Chicago
* ideas for educational events and tour; social events
* other news

Role Call:

Andy, Chris, Lara, Larry, Erika, Noel, Rich

Election votes:

 Candidates on the list were approved. Congratulations to all new board members and officers! Results were certified.

Update website:

Erika and Lara will look at website to see what needs to be done. Lara has been updating pretty regularly but need to update the list of officers and contact info. We need to revisit who to contact at front page of website. We could set up SWCS Gmail account and have that email forwarded to personal account. Schedule of tasks needs to be updated and we’ll need to take a stab at the annual report.

Status of water conference presentation

Noel is organizing a chapter presentation at American Water Resource Association and the session was accepted. AWRA requires a registration fee. Soon there is a call with the planning group and Noel will ask if reduced rate is possible and will report back.

Need to think about how we package the abstract (for example panel organized by NCC but presenters from other organizations). Have until May 23 to submit abstract. Lara will resubmit proposal and outline the funding options and send to Andy. Andy will send to council members to get a vote. We should aim for May 16 to have this information in. In the meantime, Noel will see if we can get reduced rate.

National SWCS Meeting in Chicago?

Lara will be presenting on cover crop work. Not sure if one-day or full event. Andy can send out notice to everyone in chapter asking who will be attending. Once we have a list of attendees Andy can decide if NCC should put something together at the National conference.

Ideas for social events and tours?

Symposium in Chesapeake Bay is likely going to be pushed back until September. We have time for a spring event. Andy suggested a presentation on soil health. Chris suggested having an event focused on what is happening on the ground now in the District area- something relevant locally. Lara suggested an event at brickyard farms in Maryland in Montgomery County- it could be a tour and a presentation. Lara is willing to talk to someone there about what we can do. Perhaps we can make a donation to them in lieu of fundraising if they have a speaking role. Lara will take a lead on setting this up with Noel’s help and help from Larry for payment options. We can probably pay the same amount as we typically pay for a speaker. Need to decide if it be an honorarium or a donation. We will put this on the note Andy sends around to members and will vote at next meeting. We will need to think about providing some incentive for folks to attend tour, lunch, bus ride, new members go free etc.

Spring Conowingo Dam will be pushed back to the fall.

Treasury Report:

$1.36 made in dividends.

Savings: $ 11,000.59

Checking: $1,212.23

**Total: $12,212.82**