

Shoal Creek Conservancy Watershed Action Plan Steering Committee 04/25/23

Facilitator – Committee Vice-Chair Mateo Scoggins (CoA WPD)

Steering Committee members present:

Mateo Scoggins
Kelly Strickler
Chris Randazzo
Ivey Kaiser
Yasmine Williams
Matt Harriss
Nick Boysen
Atha Phillips
Linda McCoy
Holland Jones

SCC Staff members also present:

Sierra DaSilva
Maria Darr
Nina Rinaldi
Margaux Ordoveza (SCC's spring intern)

We have a quorum of members; previous meeting minutes approved.

Sierra DaSilva: Watershed updates

Woodview Rain Garden:

Bermuda and weedy species converted to native plantings.

- Served as a test of the community oriented maintenance plan
- 9 work days total so far; adopters are beginning to self-organize maintenance workdays
- Started with solarization last summer, was not effective
- Received assistance from WPD with herbicide application
- Rebuilt stormwater inlet in the fall of 2022
- Planted over 400 native plants, mixture of 20 different species

KVUE property in the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood

- First partnership with a commercial entity
- Local community members have used the area as a park, and want to have the area formalized into parkland
- Formerly used as a staging ground for construction. Heavily degraded
- First work day in March
- Raked in 7-8 lbs of wildflower seeds for wildflower meadow
- Seeded riparian recovery mix and planted switchgrass close to channel

- Sierra is writing a management document for the community to manage invasive species
- Sierra working on an MOU to formalize mowing regime

Ivey Kaiser:

Response to Watershed report on trash in creeks: Shopping Cart Roundup event!

- One of the most common items found are shopping carts
- Day dedicated to collecting shopping carts out of Shoal Creek
- Working in partnership with Austin Resource Recovery
- Tentative Date: Saturday July 29th

Seton Medical Center/Seider Springs

- Two underground Parking Garages proposed
- Concern over impacts to the flow of the underground springs
- Meeting with Seton team in next weeks to discuss the findings of geologic study

Nina Rinaldi:

- Moving on from Shoal Creek Conservancy at the end of May
- Sticking around on contract basis through July

Kelly Strickler:

Rain to River

- Focusing on groups that are more vulnerable to the effects of flooding, erosion, and water pollution
- Looks at what makes the community use creeks
- Launched RaintoRiverATX.com
- Created community vision survey
- Interactive map that gave community members the ability to mark specific issues along creeks
- Worked with MEASURE, a local Black-owned non-profit organization
- Hired community ambassadors
- Findings
 - Lack of awareness on reporting
 - Strong desire for more education
 - It shouldn't require gentrification
 - Perception that West Austin is prioritized over East Austin
 - Concerns of trash, dumping, and encampments
 - Concerns that safe spaces are crowded and uncrowded spaces are not safe
 - Hired six organizations for gather findings from their constituents

Next meeting on July 25th.

