

## Steering Committee meeting notes 7/27

### In attendance:

Steering Committee members:

1. Ivey Kaiser, SCC (alternate: Nina Rinaldi)
2. Chris Randazzo, RECA
3. Holland Jones, Whole Earth Provision Co.
4. D'Anne Williams, PARD
5. Kelly Strickler, COAWPD
6. Mateo Scoggins, COAWPD
7. Linda McCoy, KAB
8. Louisa Brinsmade, City Council District 7

Other attendees:

1. Maria Darr, SCC
2. Nina Rinaldi, SCC
3. Tom Franke, COAWPD
4. Minda Sarmiento, COAWPD
5. Sierra DaSilva, SCC

1. Welcome and introductions of any new stakeholders in attendance; approve last meeting minutes if we have a quorum (Mateo, 5 min)

- No quorum, minutes not approved

2. Watershed updates (Sierra, 15 min)

- Our evolving strategy: more riparian restoration/riparian buffer zone expansion in the watershed. We are working on a contract amendment with TCEQ and will be adjusting our deliverables to reflect this.
- Mateo: very important to figure out how to build rain gardens more cheaply. Want to keep working on this problem.
- Forming subcommittee to work on scope of work for next TCEQ grant app
- Pet waste stations update - 3 installed!
- Highlighted Dan Lester, Creekside Neighbor
  - Cleans stretch of creek along Bullard Drive between Carleen and White Rock
  - Kelly will follow up with drainage investigator team about removing additional shopping carts in this area

3. Design in progress for Mopac/Steck Water quality ponds retrofit - an overview (Tom Franke, COA- 15 min)

- Improve function of ponds, currently 4 cells
- Design multifunctional GSI to: improve water quality, cost effective solution, maintenance friendly
- Not including cell 1 in project -- the ground is mostly rock so deepening the pond would be cost prohibitive
- Will design cell 2 to drain out when full. Will deepen and use for extended detention. Sinusoidal low flow channel for ecological benefits.
- Cell 3 deepened and used for extended detention.
- Combine Cells 4 and 5 into one wet pond. Add design features to remove as much sediment as possible before flow into outlet.
- What year were the ponds originally built? Est 1997.
- Tributary area 92 acres; 66% impervious cover; drain to Foster Branch of Shoal Creek
- Sierra: will there be water quality testing in Foster Branch before/after project to test effectiveness? Tom F/Mateo -- not currently planned, but acknowledged need to add monitoring at Foster Branch.

4. Update on harmful algae situation, how Shoal Creek is involved, and the City's decision on posting signage about it (Mateo, 5 min)

- 2019 dog deaths around Redbud Isle area: 5 dogs, late July - early Aug
- Phytoplankton bloom
- Toxin in question is dihydro anotoxins (aka fast acting death toxin)
- Dogs died within hour of exposure
- Damage caused completely thru ingestion, as opposed to some other types of toxins which cause damage in aerosol form, or skin contact
- Traditional phenomenon occurs in planktonic bloom: single cell algae mass up. Tend to occur on still water with no flow. Traditionally proliferate in warm temps with high nutrients. Algae mats grow on bottom of water column. Attach to sediments and get nutrients from sediments. Become floating mats on surface.
- Decided not to place warning signage at Shoal Creek dog park because off leash dog area is far from the Creek.
- Ivey suggested signage placement at the Janet Fish Bridge near 29th. Although this is not a sanctioned off leash area, the low water crossing is a common location for dogs swimming off leash in the water.