

Shoal Creek Watershed Action Plan Steering Committee Meeting October 29, 2024

Attendance

Ivey Kaiser*	Soe Reh
Sierra DeSilva*	Alicia Rusthoven*
Jessica Wilson*	Chris Rendazzo*
Krista Kelly	Linda McCoy*
Maria Darr	Ada Forbes
Mikey Goralnik*	Elizabeth Barnes
Andrew Clamann	Joe Gesslin
Todd Jackson	Daniel Kavelman

*Steering committee member

Quorum is met, last quarter's minutes approved

Steering Committee Membership Update

Matt Harriss retired from membership, making the count of current members 10.

- Typically there are 12+ so we are seeking more engagement
- Specifically looking for members from TPWD, neighborhood, city council, transportation/public works
- Expectations: attend meetings, using skills and connections to implement watershed plan, actively working to enact watershed plan

Shopping Cart Corral Recap

49 shopping carts collected last year, 47 this year

- Shows this issue is persistent, disproves that the carts had accumulated over time
- Continued effort to reach stakeholders and educate stores on preventative measures

Rain Garden and Grow Zone Updates

- Great oaks parkway rain garden fully planted in spring
- Twin oaks 30% planted in spring, planned to be completed for planting in November
- Green lawn fully seeded, planned to be completed with planting in November
- Rain garden adoption volunteers to care for them in the future, activate community to complete regular maintenance of the gardens
- Riparian grow days to seed and plant, twice per month during the cool season
- Success with house parties in the watershed to meet donors, share volunteering opportunities, and community engagement

Seider Springs

- There are several projects occurring at the site of the newly established grow zone, including an erosion control project and trail improvements
- City staff on erosion control projects are receiving new training on best practices to cause the least ecological damage

TCEQ Contract for Implementation plan

- First three years and funding in the agreement has come to a close
- New contract has begun, funding for continued maintenance and expansion of projects from the first three years, as well as increased education, outreach and support
- *Action item: think of ways to reach out further, with an easily understandable message, how to positively impact watershed health on private property, etc*

GSI Homes Tour

- Yard tour of homes that employ green infrastructure
- Working on recruiting homeowners (Jessica points out Chris Charles is lead on Austin Water program that does rebates for rainwater/homeowning program)
- Potential title: Waterwise Landscapes tour
- *Mikey shares idea for yard of the month with a nursery gift card prize*
- *Action item: interest form, planning committee membership*

Steck Ave Park Easement

- Partnership opportunities to seed and manage plants, considering parkland easement for undeveloped portion on land

Todd Jackson

- Located the source of fecal contamination in little shoal creek, line break and improper line connection, both repaired
- Capital improvements project near this site now
- EII (environmental integrity index) was the premier monitoring program of the last 20 years, now transitioning to EII 2.0 to be more comprehensive of the signaling pyramid (where hydrology is principal driver in water health)
- EII 2.0 to be used in randomized sites, not necessarily Shoal Creek

Upcoming Events

- Fall SCC volunteer days and tours (check the website)

Next meeting January 28th, 2025

Potentially voting for new members then

Meeting adjourned!