



Policy and Outreach Workgroup Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2011 2:00 PM

Workgroup Members Present: Bob Stokes (GBF), Linda Broach (TCEQ), Chip Morris (TCEQ by phone), Steven Johnston (GBEP), Ericka McCauley (GBEP), Charriss York (AgriLife/Sea Grant), Scott Jones (GBF), and Charlene Bohanon (GBF)

Discussion

Schedule Updates: Charlene began the meeting with introductions and by reviewing the new I-Plan schedule. A preliminary draft will be submitted to TCEQ by September 30, 2011 and the final draft is due on February 15, 2012. In the mean time one to two public meetings will be held and public comments will be received and incorporated into the final draft. Workgroup and GBF staff comments are currently being incorporated and will be submitted with the preliminary draft in September.

Funding: Section 319 non-point source pollution funding through TCEQ was discussed. We will be working with Kerry Niemann and Bill Carter at TCEQ.

Public and City Council Meetings: Charlene solicited suggestions for dates, locations, target audiences and advertising avenues. It was decided that a meeting around the 2nd or 3rd week in November would be ideal. Future meetings with city council members are also on the radar. The workgroup suggested coordinating with the other watershed protection plans and I-plans in the area to advertise; post signs at libraries, court houses, city hall; ask Scott and Lisa for an email list; submit newspaper ads/possibly buy ad space; ask Rachel to add the meeting to her BIG email blast; email signs/announcements to workgroups for distribution; connect with Phoenix Rogers to distribute to Harris County Extension and their contacts (Bear Creek Park offices).

Locations suggested were Clear Lake Park, Pasadena/Seabrook/Kemah civic or community centers; Scott will email a list he has compiled.

Workgroup members suggested advertising that refreshments will be provided and to use phrases like "help shape policy" or "be a part of the solution" to attract people to attend the meeting.

Next meeting: October 20th, 10:00am

