

## **1/24/17 meeting of Trash Action Work Force (TAWF)**

Friends,

Below please find notes from the Jan 24 meeting of Trash Action Work Force, reflecting (I'm pretty sure) all the corrections I've received.

Please forward as you see fit to people whom you want to invite to join the planning process.

Dave

The planning meeting of Trash Action Work Force took place January 24, 2017, in Alexandria.

In attendance:

Betsy Martin

Eleanor Quigley

Julie Chang

Meghan Walker

Liz Lincoln

Paul Siegel

Norbert Pink

Kris Unger

Philip Latasa

Betsy noted that Hannah Seligman of the Alice Ferguson Foundation had expressed interest but could not attend and wanted to be in distribution included.

Decision: The Trash Day of Action, focused on the building where IBWA is located, will be held on May 8, 2017, 7 to 12 am.

IBWA Information: The group discussed what, if any, communication with IBWA would be useful.

Action: Betsy, Kris, Norbert, and Eleanor took action to talk with IBWA in April to explore the lobbying organization's positions in preparation for the Trash Day of Action.

Permitting: Eleanor reviewed her notes from investigating the City of Alexandria's code regarding a sidewalk based demonstration. Discussion focused on what can be done without the need for permits: four [corrected from six] feet must be free for other pedestrians, strollers, wheelchairs, etc.; no furniture placed without a permit, therefore everything must be carried; participants must keep moving; vehicles cannot be used as a platform for people; sound amplification requires a permit; use of park land would require separate permission from Alexandria Parks; WMATA property is private, so any use of Metro grounds would require permission from WMATA. The group reached consensus that we will be able to achieve our objectives by the rules described, without needing costly permitting.

Action: At Philip's suggestion, the group took action to explore the block after the Jan 24 meeting in order to plan the approach. Several attendees did this that night, and their observations will inform future planning for the Trash Day of Action.

Action: Paul Siegel will contact WMATA to explore the possibility of distributing leaflets at the Metro exit.

Parking: The group discussed the possibility of claiming two parking spots in front of the IBWA building the night before, then populating the spots with two vehicles displaying bags of plastic bottles for the event.

Action: Betsy and Dave to provide display vehicles which will be decked out with bags of trash, a pickup truck and a small electric vehicle (Smartcar), respectively.

Signage: The group discussed signage, and reached consensus that the Work Force will generate ideas and encourage participants to devise their own signage. One note that stuck is Paul's observation that homemade signs are more effective than commercially printed ones. We will need to provide poster material and markers at the event, for participants who have no signage. Norbert passed around a graphic from "TapIt" depicting key points to consider for signage, and Philip passed around several graphics he has posted on the [Friends of Accotink Creek](#) web site.

Action: Dave took action to distribute the graphics from Norbert and Philip. They are attached. [NOTE: not included in this update. Please see my email of Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 3:02 PM for the graphics.]

Action: The Work Force will discuss the topic of signage, along with providing materials will be discussed at the next meeting.

Action: The Martin/Siegel's will host a display-building project before the event.

Publicity: Several ideas were discussed regarding digital media for publicizing the event. We also reviewed the several local Connection newspapers (Alexandria, Mt. Vernon, Springfield, etc.) that should be used to publicize, to be discussed further. Philip suggested a "Cyber Wing" that can deluge IBWA with correspondence.

Action: Meghan will distribute documents through Googledocs, and will activate Facebook Live.

Action: Kris will draft a letter for all to review and edit, with the intent that the letter can be distributed to describe the Trash Day of Action (this has been substantially completed at the time of this writing).

Government invitees: Senators Ebbin and Surrovell are promising political persons of interest.

Gatherings: The Work Force discussed opportunities such as Fairfax County Green Breakfast that may help publicize the Trash Day of Action. Others discussed were the Alexandria Democratic Committee.

Action: Eleanor and Dave will publicize the event at the next two Green Breakfasts.

T-shirts: This topic was briefly discussed, but I did not hear of any actions taken, so it will be a topic of future planning.

Chants: The value of well-organized chants was discussed. Dave mentioned some good call-and-response that had been used at the Virginia Conservation Network's (VCN) Lobby Day in Richmond the day before. This should be discussed further.

Other service organizations: The Work Force discussed other organizations that have expressed interest in the Trash Day of Action. Dave met Dean Naujoks, Potomac Riverkeeper, and Kelley Galownia, VCN, both of whom expressed interest at the Lobby Day, and Dave will follow up with them. Kelley offered to post publicity on VCN's web page, which is frequented by many organizations in the state. Joe Chudzik, Mason Neck Civic Association, has expressed interest. Betsy volunteered to contact all the leaders of the local Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF) to generate interest in joining.

Action: All who have contacts in other organizations that may be interested should distribute the newsletter to them and generate commitment to participate. Dave will work with Potomac Riverkeepers and VCN. Betsy will contact AFF leaders.

Next planning meeting:

Date & time: we selected Monday, Feb 13, 2017, 6:30-8:30, for the next planning meeting.

After discussing our need for a quieter and larger place to meet, Eleanor took action to look at libraries in the area.

Place: Sherwood Hall Regional Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, 22301.