

Bainbridge Island Watershed Council
Minutes of the January 18, 2018 meeting

Attending: Dan Groff, Brian Copp, Diane Landry, Deb Rudnick, Christian Berg

Updates:

Salmon Monitoring - 2017 season highlights:

-Murden Cove: Salmon were sighted underneath the new bottomless culvert the City installed this summer!

-There were good returns to Manzanita and lower Springbrook. There were no returns to upper Springbrook. This may be related to a reed canary grass infestation that is interfering with stream channel integrity downstream of our monitoring area. This is being looked at as part of the watershed assessment (more below).

Ravine Creek sign update - Deb and Christian met with Rick Chandler, curator at the BI Historical Museum, and talked about the sign design and text. Deb has written a first draft. We need to make sure we look at the Waypoint signs to ensure there is no overlap. Deb is meeting with Christina Doherty, outreach specialist at Islandwood, to get some feedback on the verbiage. Rick provided an estimate of about \$300 for a 2'x3' durable sign from the company they work with. The City may have some funding or Deb could approach Sustainable Bainbridge. Christian suggested reaching out to Deb Milton, a local artist, for graphic design support.

Springbrook Creek project update: The State is working on assisting with watershed assessment. There is a meeting with Land Trust and Wild Fish Conservancy coming up to look at the state assessment. The project report is due in June, so lots of movement is expected on the project this spring to create conceptual designs and synthesize collected data and information.

We also discussed the new **Island Center Planning Group**, which is holding public meetings the first and third Wednesdays of the month at Filipino-American Hall. Island Center is one of the island's four neighborhood services centers, and this discussion phase will include reviving and updating an old development plan for the area.

Stormwater improvements will need to be integrated in, and Christian has been feeding back Springbrook assessment info to that group. The Fletcher Bay Foundation is a possible funding source for Springbrook watershed work. Deb will bring that information back to the Springbrook assessment group.

Sustainable Bainbridge: The board is discussing whether SB might work with the City and business partners to explore a designation as a Green City destination. Lots of legwork is involved in this process. Those interested can check out more about the program at <http://greendestinations.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Green-Destinations-Standard-1.4.2.pdf> SB will be holding a volunteer appreciation event for anyone who has helped with any of the SB programs, including Watershed Council.

Rain garden display: There is one at the Bainbridge library right now. It's a great display case highlighting low impact development (LID) and rain gardens from WSU extension. Check it out!

Christian let us know that the city is posting an opportunity for a COBI water resources intern for this spring. Deb will send out the details alongside these minutes,.

Discussion:

Earth Month Bainbridge Island - This is our third year planning this month-long celebration of environmentally related events. We have had a few initial discussions about a possible focus on invasives, given that there are already events such as Bainbridge Island Land Trust and Let's Pull Together coordinating free invasive disposal on Sundays in April, and Weed Warriors planning for its annual Earth Day invasive pull. Our first planning meeting as a group is January 31, 12:30, at the Marge Williams Center and all are welcome. Participants are likely to include multiple Sustainable Bainbridge programs including BIWC; Islandwood; KidiMu; the City; and additional participants.

Sound to Olympics grand opening: The grand opening of the STO trail lower section between Winslow Way and High School Rd is slated for March 3 from 10a- 12:30p. BIWC has been asked by Don Willott to man an activity station that could be part of a passport program for families, whereby kids and parents can collect stamps by visiting multiple stations and win a prize when they've filled their passport. Deb is suggesting possibly sampling Ravine Creek benthic macroinvertebrates and having them available for viewing to show visitors that there is life in the stream. ***If you are interested in helping with this event, please email Deb at watershedcouncilbi@gmail.com.***

Walk Your Watershed: We have done these walks in the past and they've been a fun and successful way to get folks out in the watershed. We talked about possibly going back to the Schel Chelb watershed given all the new development as well as the focus on acquisition of the new Land Trust property adjacent to Gazzam in this watershed. Deb will chat further with the BILT about a partnership and what timing might work.

Additional topics:

Brian Copp brought up his interest in exploring whether the name of Gazzam Lake might be changed to its Suquamish name. He thinks it may be Masu, from a 1929 map at the Historical Society. He is looking into this further.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 15, 7-8:30 pm, at the Marge Williams Center