Albemarle County Natural Heritage Committee Meeting, 2014.06.02

Present: Rochelle Garwood, John Murphy, Ruth Douglas, Lonnie Murray, Peggy Cornett. Planning Commission Liaison: Karen Firehock. Albemarle County: Scott Clark. Public: Ruth Douglas, Adele Wood.

Discussion of Work Plan Approach.

Aim for BOS presentation in October because that is when the budget process starts. Let them know what we have been doing, what sites have been damaged/lost and the consequences.

Landscape Analysis is different than the digitizing/flag layer of the GIS. We have site data for 11 sites documenting the value in the community. Though a lot of data is "ad hoc" / not systematic, it could be useful. Doing it in a systematic way could provide more information and validate / confirm the biodiversity sites we have visited.

Connect to Special Use Permit, critical slope waiver requests, etc. where the information could be useful. Goal to be included in staff reports; a matter of course that it be consulted just like looking at floodplains, etc.

Next month Scott will have a more detailed Work Plan, and at that time we can work on what work we can integrate into Karen's UVA graduate class.

Site Visits. Updates were made on the spreadsheet, to include upcoming field trip dates. DCR will come to Arrowhead Farm in the next few weeks.

Paper Birch Site. Will be a rougher trail. Tom will send out the invite to the BOS.

Public Comments. Ruth Douglas. The public continues to be interested. There is a group of 5 Master Naturalist affiliates that have looked at two County parks to do a comprehensive plant list, re-survey of Ivy and Preddy Creek. Tomorrow they are going out to Byrom Park, borders Shenandoah National Park. Ruth will inquire about Mo Stevens' notebooks to see where they might have ended up.

Comp. Plan Discussion. Recommendations summarized in separate document available at: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wWjjSAAmfn7Dg4sCP0aDujD6DsMDMYEqyjjosOWJ08g/edit?usp=sharing

Next Meeting: Monday, July 7th. Be prepared with comments on the Rural Areas Chapter for the BOS discussion July 9th.