

## **Albemarle County Natural Heritage Committee Meeting, 2014.08.04**

Present: Lonnie Murray, Rochelle Garwood; Peggy Cornett, Tom Olivier, Tom Torrance.  
Planning Commission Liaison: Karen Firehock. Albemarle County: Scott Clark. Public: Ruth Douglas.

### **Rural Areas Chapter**

- The BOS will consider next month. NHC has already submitted our comments.

### **Presentation to Board of Supervisors, October 1st**

- Should ensure they know what's at risk (as opposed to just providing information)
- Show how the value of resource protection and relevance of the NHC; for example, federal mandates on water quality are enhanced by conservation; positive economic impact
- Connect to water quality, quality of life, desires of citizens (as shown repeatedly by surveys); and landowner education
- Report / presentation with nice images
- Highlight landowner education; NHC website
- Report: Lonnie and others can write up report sections; Karen will draft the presentations (thank you for the dollars); show progress and sense of urgency. Include pictures from around the County.

### **Flag Layer GIS**

- Will help County planners not only with development, but also with making decisions about event regulations
- Often environmental/park staff are not brought into planning until the very end

### **Invasive Species problems?**

- Disturbance allows invasives to grow and take over

### **Development Areas Chapter of Comprehensive Plan**

- Objective 6 refers to natural systems, steep slopes, and others.
- Suggestion from NHC to deny waivers and give special consideration to all steep slope waiver requests.
- We want to make sure that people don't move away or not move here because of traffic, reduced access to green space, etc.
- SEND COMMENTS TO LONNIE, who will compile
- September 3rd is when the BOS meets.

**Field Trip:** Calhoun Property Aug 16 or 23

### **NHC Membership**

- We still have vacancies; could use a Uva prof (Envi Sci or landscape architecture)

### **Property Developments**

- Discussion of incentives and business case for green space preservation
- Less costs and faster selling

**Next Meeting:** Monday, September 8th. (Anne will be out of town).