

SHHA Creek Committee

January 19, 2013

Meeting Summary/Next Steps

Meeting Attendees: Katie Rice, Michael Fink, Emily Duffy, Cindy Geofft, Laurie Friedman, Patti Vance, David Clevenger, Frank and Connie Berto, Pam Morton, Mark Anderson, Eric Riemer, Bruce Nissim, James Baigrie, Nancy Vernon

Purpose: to frame issues and discuss what committee can do; develop initial structure for committee and assign roles/responsibilities; set expectations for timing of next meeting

Background/Summary: Katie and group discussed key causes of flooding: blocked storm drains and culverts, constriction points, failing or insufficient infrastructure (both private/public), silt/gravel build-up reducing capacity. Other issues discussed: creekbank erosion, property/creek drainage management/maintenance, need for monitoring and support during flooding events.

Challenges for committee/moving forward will be determining solutions, responsibility, feasibility of implementing, funding, participation/cooperation of property owners, sustaining an ongoing community/property owner creek clean/maintenance effort.

Scope of Work: Committee will focus work in three general areas:

- Prevention (e.g. sandbag station, creek clean up/use of volunteers and CCC)
- Assessment/Solution identification (e.g. working with hydrologist re: flooding hot spots)
- Programs/Education (e.g. communication with property owners, workshops, annual/seasonal events)

Committee Structure: Committee agreed to begin work by forming the following sub-committees:

- Assessment - led by Cindy Geofft and Laurie Friedman to work with Katie's office to map out problem areas and to create a "master plan" for working with appropriate public agencies and/or property owners to help facilitate solutions

- Creek Stewardship/Volunteer - led by Mark Anderson and Eric Riemer to walk creeks and become educated about handling growth and debris in creek; will lead to organizing volunteer forces for creek cleaning and other related activities
- Sand bag Station – led by Patti Vance who will be establishing a permanent sand bag station at the Sleepy Hollow Church on Tarry and managed by volunteers
- Communications – led by Pam Morton who will share information about committee and education efforts through use of the SHHA bulletin, website and emails

As committee evolves, additional committees and volunteers will be added to this structure.

Next Steps:

- Nancy to send out email notice for next Flood committee meeting on Saturday, March 2 at 10:30am; all committees will have opportunity to report out on progress
- Committees to begin work:
 - Nancy to connect Mark with County staff re: creek walking education
 - Katie/Cindy/Laurie to meet to discuss mapping effort
 - Patti and Nancy to discuss/plan sandbag effort
 - Pam/Nancy to discuss initial communication needs
- Katie to explore County resources available (including funding) to help with committee efforts

Parking Lot (ideas we don't want to forget):

- Sending out communication to new home owners
- Seasonal calendar of community programs
- Having sandbags in some sort of weather proof container; having phone number of volunteer to call on container if sand is low
- Having SHHA creek committee webpage on SHHA site
- Using California Conservation Corp (CCC) to help with heavy lifting/creek cleaning
- Use of school-aged children as resources for creek-cleaning/community service and other relevant activities
- Great need for phone tree/email alerts when flooding is imminent and volunteer help will be needed