

## **BCWMC Visioning Workshop**

### **Notes from the January 17, 2013, Workshop**

#### ***Present:***

Linda Loomis (Workshop Coordinator & Plan Steering Committee Chair), Ginny Black, Ted Hoshal, Dan Johnson, Wayne Sicora, Jim de Lambert, Lisa Goddard, Pat Crough, Dave Hanson, Liz Stout, Kris Sundberg, Derek Asche, Pauline Langsdorf, Eric Eckman, Lois Eberhart, Jeff Oliver, Lois Eberhart, Tom Mathisen, Chris Long, Karen Chandler, Diane Spector, and Amy Lemieux.

#### **Watershed Game**

Facilitators Diane Spector and Amy Lemieux each led a group through the watershed game.

#### **Visioning Exercise**

Workshop Coordinator and Plan Steering Committee Chair Linda Loomis introduced the topic of vision statements and opened the floor to brainstorming a Bassett Creek Watershed Management Organization (BCWMC) vision statement, which will be incorporated into the Next Generation Plan and the planning process. Ms. Eberhart asked if the Organization has a vision statement. Ms. Loomis said no.

Ms. Sundberg said that the Organization's goals are to deliver high impact projects at moderate cost and to partner to reduce the cost. Mr. Sicora suggested looking at what was done in the *Watershed Management Plan* and gave the examples of flood control, water quality, and implementation projects. He added that the modeling and analysis are also parts of the Organization's functions. Ms. Chandler said that a goal of the BCWMO is to understand the system. Mr. Eckman added that goals of the watershed are to have little to no property loss due to flooding and, as a long-term plan, to have no impaired waters. Ms. Chandler added the goals of public safety and protecting public infrastructure. Mr. Crough suggested adding to the vision statement the goal of avoiding erosion caused by flooding. Ms. Black commented on the watershed goal of reducing flows.

Mr. Sicora said that people look to the watershed organization to provide education and public outreach. He said that one point that was illustrated by the watershed game is that getting the word out doesn't need to have a high cost. Ms. Sundberg brought up the idea of community engagement and encouraging community understanding and participation. Mr. Mathisen pointed out that the BCWMO comprises nine cities and brings the cities together with a common goal. He said that through the BCWMO the cities partner together to reach the common goal. Ms. Black agreed that the BCWMO is a partnership approach. Ms. Chandler remarked on the local control aspect of the Joint Powers Organization and the collaboration. Mr. Johnson added that the watershed has the objective of utilizing best practices. Ms. Loomis added that the watershed looks for high impact and low cost.

Mr. de Lambert said that the watershed serves the interests of the member communities, the watershed, and the downstream communities and waterbodies. Mr. Hoshal suggested wording the vision statement as "The vision of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Organization is to protect, manage, and mitigate the surface and ground water impacts of a growing population as a means of enhancing, sustaining, or restoring those nature resources for this generation as well as for future generations." Ms. Sundberg commented that it sounded like a vision statement and a mission statement blended into one. She said that a vision statement is an inspirational message and a mission statement captures how to get it done. Ms. Loomis said that Ms. Black brought today to the workshop the mission statement of The Nature Conservancy. Ms. Loomis read it aloud, "The mission of the

Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters upon which all life depends.”

Ms. Chandler said that it is important to make that distinction between mission and vision and said that with the distinction in mind then the collaboration aspect would fit more with the watershed’s mission. Mr. Johnson said that the overarching concept is stewardship. Ms. Eberhart suggested a vision statement: “Stewardship of our water resources to protect and enhance our communities.”

Ms. Black said that stewardship implies partnership. Mr. Johnson said that stewardship also implies that it is done cost effectively. Ms. Sunderg suggested, “The watershed strives to be innovative stewards of water resources that protect and enhance our communities.” She said that innovative reflects that the watershed thinks outside of the box and is leadership driven and utilizes best management practices.

Ms. Loomis thanked everyone for their participation and input and said that the Plan Steering Committee would review all of these ideas and suggestions.