

Water

August 11, 2021

2:00pm-3:00pm

Zoom



CAMDEN
COLLABORATIVE
INITIATIVE

Notes

I. Welcome and Introductions

- 17 attendees

II. Special Presentations

- Discussion on Discover the Delaware – Don Baugh, President of [Upstream Alliance](#)
 - Partnership of 9 organizations linked by the William Penn Foundation with the mantra “two rivers, one city” and this group became discover the Delaware
 - 3 goals: 8-mile greenway, a 13-mile water trail, and serve the community
 - Extreme opportunity to improve quality of life
 - Public private partnership model brings together an array of expertise
 - Water trail: dotted line into Cooper’s River and around Petty Island, connecting all access points (map below)
 - In active discussion with Friends of Haddonfield to extend water trail further into the Cooper River and land trail (east to 295)
 - Currently, much of the access is for fishing and many of those places are illegal (opportunity to provide more)
 - Study to design 4 access points, 2 physical ones and 2 studies
 - Dock at [Camden County Parks Department](#)
 - Kaighns Ave. dam: substandard access right now, conceptual plan will formalize the accessibility around the dam

DELAWARE RIVER + BACK CHANNEL / FUTURE VISION



3. Design for a dock at [Gateway Park](#): NJ Conservation Foundation
 - a. For fishing, hanging out, launching boats, etc.
4. Beach at Pyne Poynt (conceptual), aspirational design
 - a. Sadler's Poynt Park is being redesigned with walking trails... limited access to waterfront because of remediation
- Hoping for a grant from US Fish and Wildlife to develop a Water Trail for Camden's diverse community of \$500,000
 1. Create the Water Trail (signage)
 2. Involve the parks, host events for community
 3. Involve Center for Aquatic Sciences to provide programming and NJ Conservation Foundation with fishing programs
- Center for Aquatic Sciences finding a lot of people are afraid of water; thinking about skill development programs
 1. targeting parents, starting fishing programs of their own with new fishing equipment, working with Urban Promise
- CCP: Provides neighborhood connection and get the word out about initiatives and projects
 1. Sadler's Poynt should have a boat ramp, waiting for Army Corp approval... should have that process underway in the fall
 - a. Not actually at Sadler's property but rather just west of Pyne Poynt Park
- CCMUA: wastewater treatment utility interested in having clean water
 1. Rely on partnerships for working with the community
- What is it going to take to reconnect community to water?
 1. Maybe rooted in public education... students encouraged to have on-water experiences to improve quality of life
 2. Lucy is a program that can help connect students and family
 3. The water experience could be implemented as part of an understanding of the impact of climate change on Camden

III. Hot topics

- a. American Water changed rule of water access... now places such as community gardens need to meter and pay for the water used
- b. Still, places like the Elijah Perry playground splash spew water all day
 - Is it possible to create a timer? Push button?
 1. Can't really retrofit, need to entirely replace
 2. This is a function of the age of the system... newer ones have timers or have motion sensors
 - Elijah Perry is slated for improvements, this concern will be addressed
 - Need a concerted effort to bring up to the city the water usage of these and inquire about any plans for improvements (contact Tamara Jefferson)

IV. Flooding/CSO Mitigation

- a. Current Issues
 - Camden Reports usage down and movement towards social media
 1. 7 flooding reports since CCP took over the data management in August of 2020

2. All scattered throughout Camden; not enough data to draw conclusions
 3. A few years ago, we were getting a lot of flooding reports, had funding to do that outreach
 4. We do have some funding to do some advertising maybe a news ad or social media ad
 5. It's set up to be anonymous so can't follow up directly
 6. PowerCorp working in Cramer Hill area should they report it?
 - a. Yes! Residents and institutions alike can and should report flooding to Camden Reports
- b. Key Next Steps
- Consider how to re-energize Camden Reports for flooding reporting. Some ideas from this meeting:
 - a. Add a bit into the Camden Reports survey describing why the data is important and what submissions are helping to solve
 - b. Could make the map of flooding pins more public
 - c. Data should go to Gary Brooks (American Water)
 - d. Can also advertise the 24-hour hotline: 856-635-1496
 - i. Dispatch immediately when they get a complaint
 - Adopt a drain: if residents notice a drain that doesn't have a 'Drains to Waterway' notice, American Water wants to place one... alert Gary Brooks

V. Drinking Water

- a. Current Issues
- Camden Water Quality Investment: American Water updates
 1. Starting construction in the next few weeks
 - Leading with Lead Water Pitcher/ Filter giveaways for East Camden residents:
 1. **Friday, August 27th** from 6-8 pm at the entrance of Dudley Grange Park (3101 Federal St.)... ahead of the Outdoor Movie Night showing of *Dora and the Lost City of Gold* at sunset
 2. **Saturday, September 4th** from 6-8 pm at the Resilient Roots Farm (29th & Cramer St.) as a part of VietLead's Harvest Moon Block Party
- b. Opportunities:
- [Current Grant](#): EPA Children's Healthy Learning Environments in Low-income and/or Minority Communities
- c. Key Next Steps
- Research eligibility of lead pipe replacement under American Rescue Plan

VI. Community Access to Water

- a. Current Issues
- [Imagine a Day Without Water](#): Ideas for activities, any existing events/ programs to build on?
 1. Linda may be interested in helping out
- b. Key Next Steps
- [Cramer Hill Waterfront Park](#) opening September 2021
 - Kayak programs to all interested groups. Email trails@aquaticsciences.org

VII. Additional Information/Resources

- a. Send any Environmental Summit 2021 keynote speaker suggestions to mfrankil@camdencpinc.com

DISCLAIMER: This is a summary of the meeting and is based upon the written notes and memory of individuals from Cooper's Ferry Partnership and members of the CCI Core Team. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made in the meeting, and they reflect comments on work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. Report any corrections to camdencollaborative@camdencpinc.com

Next Meeting: CCI All Working Groups Meeting, September 14th at 7 pm