

Program Advisory Committee Report

Prepared for Board of Director's Meeting, July 17, 2015

The Program Committee met on June 5th at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

We discussed the organization of projects within programs (such as Forests, Storm water, etc.), but did not go very far with this discussion since Alliance staff has been working on this and since AI needs to be consulted. Instead, we turned our attention to a strategy for programs and their development- agreeing that this was within the purview of the Program Committee and the Board.

We think that first we should clearly establish what the programs are. Then establish goals for each of the programs, and develop metrics for assessing progress toward each goal. We think that this can be done in concert with AI and perhaps the communications group as these will probably be included on the Alliance web pages. We also think this should be done in a whiteboard/ session and this will be the committee's agenda in the near future. We also need to review the Strategic Plan with special attention to program objectives to ensure that we are consistent with Alliance long- and short-term goals.

We also discussed positioning the Alliance strategically to receive settlement funds in environmentally related law suits. Such a strategy has been discussed by the Board before specifically regarding agricultural settlements. Homeland security, hurricane damage, restoration and clean up were also mentioned as potential sources of revenues.

Finally, we briefly discussed the concept of an Innovation team and using unrestricted seed money for the development of new ideas and/or programs. "Low probability" "outside chance" possibilities and strategies need to be included in these discussions and will be topics for the next committee meeting.

How to solicit full Board feedback and how to present initiatives to the full Board also need to be worked out. Rich has experience in developing innovation/exploratory teams and this will be useful to the committee.

The Program Committee decided to meet the evening before the July Board meeting in Pennsylvania.

Submitted by Robert Paul, Chair, Programs Committee