

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2013

PRESENT: *Commission Members:*, Chairperson Brigitte Schmidt, Vice-Chairperson Kathy Vesely, Secretary Amanda Whitmore, Rosemary James, Linda Moser, Scott McIlwee, Laura Schnackenberg, Jessica Renner, and Mayor and Council Liaison Barbara Wetzel
Staff Member: Megan Clark, Town Planner

PRESIDING: Chairperson Brigitte Schmidt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Member Schnackenberg, second by Vice-Chairperson Vesely, to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2013 meeting approved. Motion carried.

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Secretary Whitmore and Member Moser commended members of the Green Fest Committee on a successful Green Fest.

Liaison Wetzel shared the most recent MML Magazine, which featured a variety of “green” resources. She also stated Member Todd Kennedy had submitted his resignation, thus there is currently a vacancy on the Commission that would need to be filled.

Member James stated there would be a podcast of the Green Fest speaker presentations available on the Green Fest webpage shortly.

Chairperson Schmidt thanked Secretary Whitmore for the flyer about the BEC that was distributed at the Green Fest and those that helped staff the booth.

Chairperson Schmidt stated Citicorp was interested in doing a service project within Town limits and hopefully would be contacting her shortly to coordinate efforts and ideas.

Chairperson Schmidt stated she had been in touch with the University of Maryland regarding possible interns to perform a tree canopy study and a walkability audit. The Commission discussed sending out an advertisement for the available internships in the near future so the studies could be performed over the summer.

Chairperson Schmidt stated many speakers are interested in presenting to the BEC and she would be scheduling presentations over the next few months. She also stated she had been invited to the EDC Networking breakfast and in the future hopes to be a speaker regarding recycling opportunities for the local businesses.

NEW BUSINESS

SHAFER PARK /TOWN TRIBUTARIES

Town Planner Clark shared maps of the two tributaries that run through the municipal boundaries of Town. She stated the tributaries are currently called Tributary 103 and Tributary 102. Tributary 103 runs through Shaffer Park and Tributary 102 runs through the King Road property, near where Sycamore Run will be developed. The Commission discussed coordinating with the Park Board to name the tributaries, including having residents participate in a naming contest. Member Schnackenberg stated she would share the Commission’s discussion with the Park Board at their next meeting at the end of May.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE BOONSBORO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (BEC)

The Commission continued discussing the Strategic Plan and Objectives of the Commission.

SOLAR RFP & MEA GRANT

Town Planner Clark stated the Mayor and Council had accepted the BEC's recommendation to advertise an RFP for the solar project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and she hoped to advertise within the next few weeks.

Town Planner Clark stated the Town now qualified for \$37,500 from the Maryland Energy Administration grant. She stated MEA would help establish the baseline for energy reduction and would be coordinating with them over the next several weeks.

SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND SURVEY RESULTS

Secretary Whitmore shared the results of the Sustainable Maryland Community Survey, sent out in Boonsboro residents water bills last month. She stated approximately 225 surveys had been completed. The Commission discussed the results, and the survey committee would meet one more time to finalize the results.

DISCUSSION

Chairperson Schmidt presented the Six Month BEC Activity report to the Commission. The Commission discussed preparing a formal report to present to the Council after one-year.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Schmidt declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Clark,
Town Planner/Zoning Administrator