

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2013

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**PRESENT:** *Commission Members:* Chairperson Brigitte Schmidt, Vice-Chairperson Kathy Vesely, Secretary Amanda Whitmore, Laura Schnackenberg, Scott McIlwee, Jessica Renner, Bill Brady, and Mayor and Council Liaison Barbara Wetzel  
*Absent:* Rosemary James and Linda Moser  
*Staff Member:* Megan Clark, Town Planner  
*Guests:* Mike Hunninghake, MEA/Sustainable Maryland, Roland England, Rich Hawkins, Greg Huntsberry, Janeen Solberg, and Ryan Wetzel

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

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER:** Chairperson Schmidt welcomed new member, Mr. Bill Brady to the Commission.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**GUESTS:**

Mike Hunninghake, representing MEA and Sustainable Maryland through the University of Maryland Finance Center, gave a presentation on the Sustainable Maryland Certified program and the Smart Energy Communities Grant distributed through the Maryland Energy Administration. Mr. Hunninghake stated more than likely the Town had already completed projects that could be counted towards the certification and encouraged the Town to identify these and use them for the Sustainable Maryland program. Mr. Hunninghake stated while a green team is part of the Sustainable Maryland program, it is not required to be appointed, and there can be volunteers not on the "green team" that can help with projects. Regarding the Smart Energy Communities grant, he stated once the policies are adopted and an energy baseline established, projects to be implemented through the grant were able to be identified.

**JOINT MEETING WITH THE PARK BOARD**

Chairperson Schmidt welcomed members Roland England, Rich Hawkins, and Laura Schnackenberg from the Park Board. Both commissions discussed ideas for naming Tributary 103 that runs through Shafer Park; establishing a natural, vegetative buffer along Tributary 103; identifying storm drains with "Drains to the Bay"; utilizing pet waste stations; recycling standards for events held in Shafer Park and additional individual recycling receptacles; and smoking on park property. Town Planner Clark would follow up with the Park Board for items that required recommendations to the Council.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RECOMMENDATION TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL: Resolution 2013-04: Energy Efficiency Policy & Resolution 2013-05: Renewable Energy Policy**

Town Planner Clark presented two resolutions for recommendation. Both resolutions were required as part of the MEA Smart Energy grant process and established policies that would reduce energy usage and utilize renewable energy. Once the policies were adopted, the Town would establish an energy baseline to track energy usage and work towards the goal of reducing the amount of energy consumed.

Motion by Member Schnackenberg, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Vesely, to **RECOMMEND TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS 2013-04 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RESOLUTION 2013-05 RENEWABLE ENERGY.** Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS**

Member Renner discussed the strategic plan, and the County's proposal to move forward with a refuse-derived fuel (RDF) plant for the landfill.

Chairperson Schmidt updated the Commission on the recent meeting with King Road Associates regarding Sycamore Run, and the status of the internships for the walkability analysis and tree canopy survey. Liaison Wetzel introduced Ryan Wetzel, who would be completing the Tree Canopy survey.

Secretary Whitmore updated the Commission on the status of establishing the Green Team.

Town Planner Clark updated the Commission on the status of the Energy Audits and a future meeting with a Chesapeake Bay Trust representative for planting a stream buffer.

### **ADJOURN**

Chairperson Schmidt declared the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Megan Clark,  
Town Planner/Zoning Administrator