

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013

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**PRESENT:** *Commission Members:*, Vice-Chairperson Kathy Vesely, Secretary Amanda Whitmore, Linda Moser, Rosemary James, Scott McIlwee, Laura Schnackenberg, Todd Kennedy, Jessica Renner and Mayor and Council Liaison Barbara Wetzel  
*Absent:* Chairperson Brigitte Schmidt due to illness  
*Staff Member:* Megan Clark, Town Planner  
*Guests:* Lisbeth Fried, Sustainable Maryland Certified; Doug Hutzell & Susan Simonson

**PRESIDING:** Vice-Chairperson Kathy Vesely called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Vice-Chairperson Vesely, second by Secretary Whitmore to **APPROVE** the Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2013 as amended. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Vice-Chairperson Vesely reported on the E-Recycling Event held on Jan. 21, 2013 at Boonsboro High School. She stated there was a great turnout with approximately 38,000 pounds collected at the four different locations throughout the county.

### GUEST PRESENTATIONS

Lisbeth Fried, Program Manager for Sustainable Maryland Certified, presented an overview of the Sustainable Maryland Certified program. SMC provides a means for Maryland municipalities to earn certification by completing 16 to 25 sustainable actions. The certification process could take as long as three years. After that, a municipality would have to reapply. In the meantime, SMC plans to institute some more rigorous levels of certification. SMC is only in its second year, according to Ms. Fried.

The Commission members discussed the various action items of the certification and thanked Ms. Fried for her presentation.

Susan Simonson, Antietam Creek Watershed Alliance (ACWA), shared information about ACWA, which has been supportive of the Town of Boonsboro's green actions to date, and is interested in facilitating partnerships for future projects within the Town, especially because the small streams in the town are part of the Antietam Creek watershed.

Doug Hutzell, Beaver Creek Watershed Alliance, shared a power point presentation about possible stream restoration projects for the two Shafer Park unnamed tributaries, as well as projects that his group had completed within Washington County. Mr. Hutzell had conducted a survey of the streams with Town staff and identified several areas and projects that could restore the health of the streams.

The Commission discussed possible projects for the future and thanked Ms. Simonson and Mr. Hutzell for sharing the information presented.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Member Renner shared information compiled by the sub-committee. Six categories have been identified: environmental and resource conservation and enhancement; transportation and infrastructure; land use and open space; economic development; community awareness and building; and waste reduction. Each category would include objectives and goals and set target dates for completion. The Commission discussed the various categories and felt a meeting should be designated specifically to discuss and establish a strategic plan. Town Planner Clark stated she would schedule this discussion for the March meeting.

### **WASTE REDUCTION COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Member McIlwee stated the sub-committee attended the January workshop of the Mayor and Council, as the Council would be discussing whether to extend the existing waste hauling contract or place the contract out to bid. He stated the Mayor opened the discussion, stating it seems more feasible to provide once a week trash and once a week recycling, rather than continue the existing services. The Council agreed to place out bids with two options: once a week trash and recycling collections, and twice a week trash collection, with every other week recycling collection. The Committee will continue to encourage the once week trash/once a week recycling option.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST GRANT FUNDING**

Town Planner Clark stated she had begun working on a grant for a watershed plan for the two tributaries within Shafer Park. She stated the plan would identify and prioritize restoration projects for the tributaries. She requested a letter of support from the Commission to include with the grant application; as well as a recommendation to the Mayor and Council to proceed with the application and provide a possible match. Member James volunteered to write the letter of support.

Commission Member Schnackenberg made a **MOTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO PROCEED WITH THE CBT GRANT APPLICATION FOR A WATERSHED PLAN FOR SHAFER PARK AND TO PROVIDE A MATCH.** Member Renner seconded the motion. **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **DISCUSSION**

Liaison Wetzel stated she would be doing a press release for Arbor Day, as discussed previously, and suggested the Commission establish a sub-committee for trees.

Commission Member James made a **MOTION TO ESTABLISH A SUB-COMMITTEE FOR TREES WITH MEMBERS VESELY, MCILWEE, AND MOSER SERVING.** Member Whitmore seconded the motion. **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

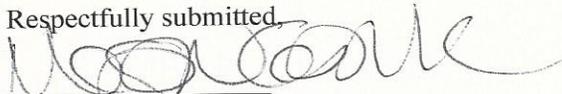
### **CITIZEN COMMENT**

None

### **ADJOURN**

Vice-Chairperson Vesely declared the meeting adjourned at 9:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Megan Clark

Town Planner/Zoning Administrator