

The Boonsboro Environmental Commission (BEC)

Seventh Annual Report January 2019 – December 2019

BEC BUSINESS:

- Sponsored Joyce Tuten, speaking on “Understanding Climate Change” – February
- Donated speaker stipends to environmental charity of speaker’s choice
- Welcomed new BEC Member, Alison Preston – April
- Worked with the Park Board at the Arbor Day event, including park/stream cleanup – April
- Put article in Spring 2019 Town Newsletter on Trash Recycling and Contamination
- Sponsored and manned a BEC informational tent at Green Fest – May
- Town Planner, Ethan Strickler, spoke on MS4-MCM2 Guidelines as it pertains to the BEC – May
- MS4 Worksheet completed and submitted to Town Planner Strickler – June
- Discussed and approved FY 2019 Budget – June
- Chairperson Vesely attended (with citizen Wetzel) the Washington County Environmental Management Advisory Committee meeting concerning county waste – August
- Welcomed 4th Grader, Evan Sisler, who gave a presentation on Electric Vehicles as part of his summer Magnet Program requirement – September
- Welcomed new BEC Member, Barbara Wetzel – September
- Worked on an updated Strategic Plan each month (May-October)
- Two members attended the Public Safety Commission meeting to discuss concerns with town crosswalk safety – September
- Supported the Town at Bulk Trash Day, Shafer Park – October
- Member and a Master Gardener weeded the Monarch Waystation in Shafer Park – November
- BEC, Town Staff, and Green Fest Committee members toured Entsorga WV – October
- Chairperson Vesely attended Sustainable Maryland Certified Workshop – November
- Sponsored Phil Westcott of Key City Compost, speaking on “Everything You Wanted to Know About Composting” – November
- Town Planner Ethan Strickler presented information on Sustainable Communities Program – December
- Submitted grant application to Keep Maryland Beautiful – December

FARMER’S MARKET:

- Hosted a Farmer’s Market (FM) vendor meeting. Five vendors were in attendance – February 5
- Chairperson Vesely represented Boonsboro FM at a Farmer’s Market “Meet and Greet” at the Ag Center: potential vendors met with all county FM Managers – March
- Updated the Rules and Regulations for the FM
- Distributed 38 FM window posters around Boonsboro and Hagerstown
- Continued to hand out rack cards to customers during the FM season
- Purchased a sandwich board (chalkboard with fluorescent pens) to better inform customers of weekly/future FM happenings
- Held Special Events throughout season: Reusable Bag Giveaway; Bring Your Dog to the Market Day (dog treat giveaway); Monarch Alliance table (milkweed/zinnia seed giveaway); Buy Local stickers and “tattoos” given away during “Buy Local Week”; Back-to-School school supply giveaway; Meet the Mayor, Town Council and Town Staff Corn Hole Competition

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- Provided lunch to Town Maintenance Staff for their help/support throughout the FM season – November
- Took a vendor survey at end of season to get feedback to improve the FM – October

On the Horizon

- Continue the Boonsboro Farmer's Market, Year 7
- Attend FM Market Managers Conference in March
- Continue efforts to install EV charging stations
- Continue to look into future grant funding for town improvement projects
- Strive for successful Plastic Straw Challenge among town businesses
- Strive for new Sustainable Maryland Certified goals – Recertify: June, 2020
- Strive to meet Strategic Plan Goals
- Work towards increasing residential composting goals
- Continue support of Park Board/Tree Board Subcommittee with tree identification signage, purchase of new trees for park
- Work with the Public Safety Commission on making our crosswalks safer, making Boonsboro a Walkable Community
- Continue Public Education and Outreach to educate community about environmental issues