

Draft

Town of Boonsboro

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
TUESDAY, April 13, 2021**

PRESENT: *Commission Members:* Laura Schnackenberg, Amy Jones, Barbara Wetzel, Andy Watson, Cassandra Ladino, Town Council Liaison Terri Hollingshead

ABSENT: Jennifer Clements, Alison Preston, Kathy Vesely, Leah Grasso

PRESIDING: Vice Chairperson Schnackenberg called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The February 2021 minutes were unanimously approved as written.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Bio pictures have been submitted from those BEC members who care to submit them.
2. Ideas for future town newsletters: The deadline is mid-June for the July 1 water bill. The BEC plans to submit an article of what Apple Valley Waste (AVW) will and will not accept for recycling. For the October newsletter the BEC is considering an article about readying your yard/garden for Fall and/or fall plantings.
3. EV Station Update: Usage of the town's EV station is picking up, and is being utilized by a variety of vehicles.
4. BEC Budget update: BEC needs to submit a budget to Mayor & Council prior to the next budget meeting (4/26). The BEC budget has been reduced substantially, and BEC will need to submit a revised budget with detailed explanation for its use if we want an increase. Commission members Wetzel and Ladino will advise Chairperson Vesely after the Tree Board meeting next week if the Tree Board will be requesting funding from BEC for its GIS project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Swap and Recycling event sponsored by the Boonsboro Green Fest Committee will be held on May 15 from 9-1. Please contact Chairperson Vesely or Vice Chairperson Schnackenberg to volunteer.
2. Trees in Farmer's Market Parking Lot: Commission member Wetzel updated BEC members on the Town's "tree requirement" for parking lots in accordance with the Town's subdivision ordinance (i.e.: X # of trees/ # of spots). The BEC, in conjunction with the Tree Board, would like to provide recommendations to the Town Planner on specific types of trees that should be planted.
3. Rules and Standards for future parking lots: BEC would like to meet with the Tree Board to establish Rules and Standards for future town parking lots (i.e.: the new commercial development at the east end of town) to ensure that appropriate trees and plantings are incorporated.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Waste Reduction – The Swap/Recycle event will be held on May 15. Waste Reduction is also establishing a list of materials acceptable to AVW which will be included with the next town newsletter.

As more residents move to paying their water/sewer bill online, is there any opportunity to omit the envelope that is included with the bill? Council Liaison Hollingshead will bring this up at next Mayor and Council meeting.

Commission member Wetzel inquired if the BEC would like a demonstration of the glass crushing machine that will be present at the May 15th Swap and Recycle event. It would be great if we could offer this service to town residents since Apple Valley Waste does not collect glass with the recycling.

Strategic Plan/Grants –no report.

Trees – Next Tree Board meeting is next week. Hoping to do a tree inventory for the town and keep it up to date with GIS software. Commission member Wetzel inquired if the Tree Board has a goal in mind for how many trees they'd like to see planted over the next several years?

Public Education/Outreach – The Chesapeake Bay Foundation gives a lot of talks online. We would like to share their information on our BEC page for upcoming talks/educational opportunities, but need to ensure that this is allowed.

Green Team – no update.

Monarch Butterfly Waystation – no update.

Farmer's Market – Farmer's Market opens April 20th for the season! Lots of great vendors!

Green Spaces – Commission member Wetzel asked the new town planner for a map of the town's green spaces. Vice Chair Schnackenberg will check her Park Board notes to see if she has a copy.

TOWN UPDATE:

State Highway Administration met with Mayor Long regarding cross walks. They will be repainting the cross walks at the library but will not be installing any lights. Additionally, the Town Square needs a lot of attention. Several other cross walks will be re-striped. Commission member Watson inquired about a cross walk at Monument Dr and the Police Station. Council Liaison Hollingshead will address this with Mayor Long and see if it can be added to the list for the state.

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS: No comments.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Amy Jones, BEC Secretary

***Next meeting: TUESDAY May 11, 2021 – Regular meeting at 7:00.**

Any person desiring a transcript of tonight's meeting shall be responsible for a competent stenographer. Items on this agenda are subject to change at the discretion of the Chairman.

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