

**DRAFT**

**Town of Boonsboro**

21 North Main Street, Boonsboro, Maryland 21713

Telephone: (301) 432-5141

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, January 8, 2025**

---

**PRESENT:** *Commission Members:* Barbara Wetzel, Cassandra Ladino, Janeen Solberg, Julie Weissenberger, Kathy Vesely, Laura Schnackenberg, Spice Cromie, Terri Hollingshead

**ABSENT:** None

**PRESIDING:** Regular meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The December minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved with corrections.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Membership
  - Currently 2 open seats on the BEC.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- April Town newsletter ideas:
  - Farmers Market
  - Community Garden
  - Green Fest Swap and Recycling Event
  - Composting
  - Sustainable Maryland - General Town Litter Cleanup
  - Trail Angels Website

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Energy:**

- Spice Cromie will lead subcommittee.

**Solid Waste Reduction:**

- Composting services continue to run smoothly with Compost Crew, averaging an intake of 150 lbs/week.
- Low Waste Living Workshop is scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at Boonsboro Library.
- Green Fest Swap & Recycling event is working on a new graphic design, food truck option, and arranging an expanded clothing drop off window for the clothing swap.

**Strategic Plan/Grants:**

- A decision on the Glass Crusher grant submitted to the Nora Roberts Foundation will be made in February.
- Suggestion to review Washington County grants annually for opportunities.

**Beautification (Trees/Green Spaces/Gardening):**

- Arbor Day tree planting will be on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 PM.

**Public Education/Outreach/Speakers:**

- Identifying and vetting speakers on the following subjects:
  - Complete Streets

- Permaculture (Patrick Kelly)
- Appalachian Trail (Dave House)

**Sustainable Maryland Certified (SMC) Green Team:**

- Meeting held January 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Planning a litter drive in connection with the National Wildlife Federation Clean Earth Challenge, which has a goal of collecting 20 million pieces of trash. This will be an SSL hours opportunity.
- Next meeting to be held March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, Town Hall.

**Nominating Committee:**

- Not Active.

**Community Garden:**

- Still in need of a garden manager. Position description is available on Town website and was advertised in January Town Newsletter.
- Community Garden plot applications are available on the Town website; 2 gardener applications have been received.

**Appalachian Trail Committee:**

- The JFK50 miler did not significantly impact the trail and there were only two reported injuries out of 1200 runners.
- The South Mountain parking lot, owned by the state, is currently unplowed.
- There is hunter presence on the AT but this should be dwindling with the close of gun season. Bow and primitive hunting will continue through February.
- Spice Cromie to add the Boonsboro Trail Angels website to Far Out.

**Farmers Market:**

- “Hot Wash” meeting to be held January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to discuss end of year closeout and new season start up.

**TOWN UPDATE:**

- There is a town workshop February 24<sup>th</sup>. Barbara Wetzel to give a presentation on glass crusher logistics to the town.
- Town Liaison presented an article on the company TerraTela, which supports making clothing from food waste.

**COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS:**

- The Arbor Day/ Earth Day stream cleanup will be April 27<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 PM. The walking path grand opening may occur also on this date, but not likely due to construction delays.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

**Respectfully submitted by  
Julie Weissenberger**

**\*Next meeting: Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 7:00 at Town Annex.**

*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.*

*“In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, familial status, religion, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination you may file in person with, or write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TDD)”.*

