

<p>Carroll County ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES Robyn Gilden, Chair Kim Petry, Vice Chair Tuesday, April 14, 2009, @ 6:30 p.m. Room 003/004, Carroll County Office Building (COB)</p>		<p style="text-align: right;">Cynthia M. Parr Chief, Administrative Services 225 N Center Street, Room 300 Westminster, MD 21157-5194 Telephone: 410-386-2232 Fax: 410-386-2485 cparr@ccg.carr.org</p>
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Members Present:

Robyn Gilden, Chair
Karen Merkle
Dan Andrews
Sandy Zebal
David Pyatt
Richard Haddad

Members Absent:

Kim Petry, Vice Chair
Chris Spaur
Brian Rhoten

County Government:

Cynthia Parr, County EAC Liaison
Terri Jones, Esq., Deputy County Attorney

Ann L. Baugher, Recording Secretary to EAC
Tom Rio, Director of General Services

Other Attendees:

Jon Richardson, CCHD
Andrea Farkas, Budapest Hungary, Climate Club President
John Stephens, resident
Stanley Mathias, resident
Dwyn Fleischer, resident
Cheri Grubby, resident
Wendy Hundertmark, resident
Judy & Bob Spindler, resident

David Farkas, McDaniel Senior
Paul Chalson, resident
Rebecca Orenstein, resident
Linda Mayer, resident
Peggy Davison, resident
Mary Anne Kowalski, resident
Gary Johnson, resident
Nancy Fricke, resident

CALL TO ORDER - Ms. Robyn Gilden, Chair, officially called the April 14, 2009, meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. asking for approval of the March 10, 2009, minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MOTION NO.77 -09: Motion was made by Karen Merkle, seconded by David Pyatt, approving the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – Chair Gilden announced she received and distributed to EAC members a letter from J. Michael Evans, dated April 6, 2009, as a response to EAC’s follow-up to Evans’ March 5, 2009 letter on Carroll County Waste to Energy (WTE) Project with Frederick County, initial inquiry dated February 12, 2009.

Ms. Cindy Parr distributed to the EAC, Carroll County’s Consensus Document from Julie Tasillo, Builders for the Bay, as stated when she addressed the EAC in the fall of 2008.

Ms. Parr briefed the EAC on the e-mail she received late on April 14th from Mr. Klebe regarding airport expansion concerns. The EAC decided to review his comments prior to preparing their formal recommendation to the BOC regarding the airport environmental assessment.

Chair Gilden called attention to her distribution via e-mail of MDE’s stimulus money distribution schedule.

OPEN FORUM – Ten (10) concerned citizens shared their comments with the EAC about the proposed expansion for Carroll County Airport including:

- review of the draft Environmental Assessment prepared by Delta Consultants, Inc. report;
- touring the area of the airport and surrounding properties effected by the proposed expansion;
- the definition of critical aircraft;
- inadequate addressing in the EA of airport storm water retention basin and lack of a mitigation plan for air, noise, light and wetlands;
- status of plane de-icing and where the materials will ultimately flow into;
- military flight patterns and airport usage concerns;
- airport runoff during a rain event worsened since the first airport expansion;
- potential effect of Westminster City’s new 300-home development proposal;
- noise abatement;
- flight path pattern(s);
- wetland mitigation;
- potential tax increase;
- impact on farm animals;
- light pollution;
- air pollution;
- ingress and egress problems;
- no air traffic control tower;
- frustrations of surrounding property owners in fear of what potentially could happen to them if they do speak up;
- County’s perceived lack of care to surrounding airport property owners as human beings and their frustrations of just not listening to them, including limiting time they are allowed to speak;
- what is the view of EPA, MDE and the DNR in this expansion process;
- lack of independent study by EAC members on the airport expansion compared to the 10-months spent on the WTE issue;
- how quickly the EAC passed the Cool Counties Agreement, applauding the EAC for their efforts in the incinerator issue and thanking them for their volunteer public service.

Ms. Gilden thanked everyone for attending and sharing their concerns with the Council. Ms. Merkle then shared appreciation to citizens for attending and sharing their passion regarding the airport expansion.

Ms. Parr reminded attendees that the Carroll County Regional Airport, in proximity to Camp David, has and will have military aircraft traffic associated with the safety of the President of the United States.

Ms. Merkle shared with the attendees the EAC has been tasked to comment on the environmental assessment while other County agencies are reviewing business development initiatives, cost benefit analysis, etc. Ms. Merkle also feels all EAC members should review the airport environmental assessment again in order to do a good job in the Council’s recommendation to the BOC.

Ms. Parr will set up a site visit with representation from various County agencies and the EAC before coming back to the table in preparation of their final BOC recommendation.

Old Business:

Tom Rio – replacement of diseased trees at the County Office Building Complex

Mr. Rio attended the EAC meeting to advise the Council, who also serves as the Tree Commission, the 20-year-old Ash trees along Court Street, suffering from drought and trimming, due to ash bore were going to be replaced with red maples. Upon receiving a report by Brian Rhoten, given to Mr. Rio at the beginning of the meeting differed from the ash bore analysis by the County Arborist. Mr. Rio announced to the EAC he would get together with Mr. Rhoten and the County's Arborist and advise the Council of the outcome.

Mr. Rio reminded the Council of Arbor Day, April 21, 2009.

Ms. Gilden thanked Mr. Rio for attending and briefing the EAC on this tree issue.

Environmental Awards update – Ms. Gilden, in Ms. Petry's absence, updated the EAC. Award plaques have arrived, winner notification letters were mailed April 13, 2009 and Honorable Mention certificates were mailed on April 14, 2009. Ms. Petry and Ms. Gilden are planning on attending the ceremony and all EAC members are also welcome. The ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2009, in Room 311, at 10:00 a.m.

Solid Waste Management discussion

Waste Not! Expo, Frederick County – Mr. David Pyatt briefed the Council on this event and how this event was well presented by a few non-profits and environmentalist groups. Ms. Zebal added the Expo was quite an educational experience for her with interesting speakers in their non-technical presentations. The Stop Trashing the Climate report can be found online at stoptrashingtheclimate.org. Ms. Gilden will distribute to members and will send the link to the BOCs.

Review of J. Michael Evans' letter to the EAC dated April 6, 2009 – A few comments were discussed by the EAC and if Council has any further concerns to pass them on to Cindy Parr or Mike Evans. The Council will inquire why the cost of the WTE facility increased almost 200 million more from the original 350 million.

Airport Environmental Assessment recommendation to the Board of Commissioners – Tabled until Mr. Klebe's e-mail is reviewed and the EAC completes the airport walk through. The May, 2009 meeting will be a work session in assembling member concerns for forwarding to the BOCs.

NEW BUSINESS: - None

COUNCIL MEMBERS – Issues for future consideration - None

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Those wishing to read the Environmental Assessment can find hard copies at the Westminster, Eldersburg and N. Carroll libraries, Ms. Parr and Mr. Steve Powell also have copies, and the document is available on the County website.

Carroll County will be realizing \$684,000 in stimulus monies for sustainability.

The next regularly scheduled meeting, an **afternoon** meeting, will be held **Tuesday, May 12, 2009, at 3:00 p.m.** in Room 003/004.

ADJOURN: MOTION NO. 78-09: Motion made by David Pyatt, seconded by Sandy Zebal to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried.

Please inform the secretary if you are unable to attend

Environmental and Resource Protection\ECO Files\EAC\MINUTES\2009\April 14, 2009