

<p>Carroll County ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES Robyn Gilden, Chair Kim Petry, Vice Chair Tuesday, November 10, 2009, @ 3:00 p.m. Room 003/004, Carroll County Office Building (COB)</p>		<p>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
David Pyatt
Karen Merkle
Dan Andrews
Sandy Zebal
Brian Rhoten

Members Absent:

Richard Haddad
Kim Petry, Vice Chair
Chris Spaur

County Government:

Cynthia Parr, County EAC Liaison
Terri Jones, Esquire, CAO
James E. Slater, Jr., Environmental Compliance

Ann Baugher, Recording Secretary
Amanda Miller, Asst. to Commissioner Zimmer

Other Attendees:

Carrie Knauer, Carroll County Times reporter
John Richardson, CCHD
Andrew House, First Global Visions, LLC

Lynn Wheeler, CCPL
Scott Reinhart, CCPL
John Modica, First Global Visions, LLC

CALL TO ORDER - Ms. Robyn Gilden, Chair, officially called the November 10, 2009, meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. asking for approval of the October 13, 2009 minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MOTION NO. 95 -09: Motion was made by David Pyatt, seconded by Sandy Zebal, approving the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – 1. Ms. Cindy Parr announced that the County prescription collection just launched has been quite successful with over 100 lbs. collected. Vivian Laxton received a report regarding intersex fish - over ¾'s of small-mouth bass in the Potomac's South Branch are producing eggs with the highest percentages near populated areas and farming centers. Household detergents and birth-control pills may be to blame.

PRESENTATIONS: Chair Robyn Gilden, on behalf of the EAC, presented a Certificate of Appreciation along with a token of the Council's appreciation to Ann Baugher, retiring from Carroll County Government on January 1, 2010, with nearly 20 years of service and serving as Environmental Advisory Council recording secretary for the past four years.

OLD BUSINESS – None

OPEN FORUM: - **First Global Visions, LLC** - Mr. John Modica introduced himself and Mr. Andrew House, owners of First Global Visions, LLC, a company they began with a \$3,000.00 grant received through McDaniel College, with the company to serve as a link between the community and the college. Their business goal will be to perform energy audits in 100 Carroll County homes. The plans are in the fundamental stages with hopes to begin energy audits in January, 2010. Mr. Modica and Mr. House will

update the EAC of their progress on December 8, 2009. Any EAC member wishing to be included on First Global Visions, LLC e-mail list were asked to furnish information to the students.

The EAC shared Mr. Mondica and Mr. House's enthusiasm. To assist in selecting energy audit sources, Ms. Karen Merkle suggested they contact the Environmental Club at Carroll Community College; and Ms. Parr suggested the students check with the Carroll County Public Schools, Library, and Senior Centers, all entities within Carroll County.

Ms. Gilden thanked Mr. Mondica and Mr. House for addressing the EAC wishing them well in their mission.

NEW BUSINESS: - Tree Commission – Mr. Brian Rhoten updated the EAC on the Council serving as the County's Tree Commission. A sub-committee meeting was held recently and EAC members serving are Dan Andrews, Karen Merkle, Brian Rhoten, along with other CC employees, a member of the Westminster Tree Commission and a DNR member. The sub-committee wishes to address and propose better preservation standards for the County and possible enforcement that may require slight ordinance changes to protect existing property owner rights along property lines while preventing damage to trees in the first place.

Carroll County Public Library – Westminster Branch - Ms. Lynn Wheeler and Mr. Scott Reinhart reviewed the library exterior landscape renovation plans with the EAC. Ms. Wheeler and Mr. Reinhart conveyed the importance the Westminster Tree Commission served by participating in the tree study and the library's final tree preservation plan. Work at the Main Street, Westminster Library is to begin in the spring of 2010, with completion by summer of the same year. Ms. Wheeler thanked the County and Mr. Mike Whitson's staff for continually cleaning leaves on the library's flat roof and gutter cleaning, approximately twice a month. Mr. Rhoten also submitted a report outlining his review of the plan and has volunteered to assess the structure of two (2) legacy trees to make sure they are appropriate to keep.

Sustainability Coordinator position retention - Letter to the BOC for retention of the Sustainability Coordinator position, carried over from the October agenda due to time constraints, was reviewed as written and distributed at the October meeting. Discussion by the EAC in favor of forwarding a letter to the BOC was supported by those in attendance. The Council felt during critical times, retention of this position is necessary. Mr. Dan Andrews pointed out what the Sustainability Coordinator has done over the past seven months. Other EAC members gave their written comments to Chair Gilden to incorporate into the final letter concluding discussion with a motion.

<p><u>MOTION NO. 96-09: RECOMMENDATION FOR RETENTION OF SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR POSITION</u> – “Motion made by David Pyatt that the EAC send a letter to the Board of Commissioners stating EAC's justification and support of the County Sustainability Coordinator position; seconded by Sandy Zebal.” Motion carried.</p>
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COUNCIL MEMBERS – Issues for future consideration – Dan Andrews advised fellow EAC members of the recent Solid Waste Option Forum held in Frederick County whereby ten experts spoke, each had 15 minutes, followed by Q&A. Presentations were heard on: optimizing recycling, waste audit, food scraps, pay as you throw, material recovery, advanced technology of SW plasma arc, SW to liquid fuel and modern landfills, to name a few. Mr. Andrews commented on his continued concern of Carroll County planning to spread the County's portion of WTE ash over waste in the County landfill rather than utilize a dedicated cell as is done in Montgomery County and proposed in Frederick County if and when the WTE facility is built. Issues could arise if the landfill is opened and mined 30 years from now stating the mix is

not a good idea and could get airborne. Expert Robert Heismeier, Forum speaker, stated it is not advisable to select the daily cover method.

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Ms. Gildea announced the next regularly scheduled meeting, an **afternoon** meeting, will be held **Tuesday, December 8, 2009, at 3:00 p.m.** in Room 003/004

ADJOURN: MOTION NO. 97-09: Motion made by Brian Rhoten, seconded by David Pyatt, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m. Motion carried.

Please inform the secretary if you are unable to attend

Environmental and Resource Protection\ECO Files\EAC\MINUTES\2009\November 10, 2009