

<p>Carroll County ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES Robyn Gilden, Chair Kim Petry, Vice Chair Tuesday, December 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
Kim Petry, Vice Chair
Sandy Zebal
Brian Rhoten
Chris Spaur
Richard Haddad

Members Absent:

Dan Andrews
David Pyatt
Karen Merkle

County Government:

Cynthia Parr, County EAC Liaison
Terri Jones, Esquire, CAO

Ann Baugher, Recording Secretary
Neil Ridgely, Sustainability Coordinator

Other Attendees:

Carrie Knauer, Carroll County Times reporter
Albert Eilbacher, Carroll County Public Schools

Ray Prokopf, Carroll County Public Schools
Ellen Cutsail, Union Bridge Town Council

CALL TO ORDER - Ms. Robyn Gilden, Chair, officially called the December 8, 2009, meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. asking for approval of the November 10, 2009 minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MOTION NO. 98 -09: Motion was made by Sandy Zebal, seconded by Brian Rhoten, approving the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – None

PRESENTATIONS: Mr. Al Eilbacher and Mr. Ray Prokop, Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) presented “Green Strategies Utilized in Carroll County Public Schools” to the EAC. Mr. Prokop provided an overview of “where the Board of Education has been in “greening” of their schools and where they are headed”. Mr. Al Eilbacher then presented, via PowerPoint, the many “greening” aspects. Mr. Eilbacher covered items in their upgrades and new construction from geo-thermal use of the earth as an energy source, reducing fossil fuel and carbon emissions, positioning of school on site for positive sun utilization in classroom lighting, automated zone schedules when occupied and non-occupied, reduction in water consumption utilizing two-stage flush, 1.6 gallon toilets, sink faucet sensors, high-speed hand dryers, drought tolerant native landscape plantings, pervious concrete, rain monitors, water recharge, energy efficient room lighting, new construction specifications that include more windows, sloped ceilings, low-e glass, sun shades, reflective white roofing surfaces, low maintenance polished concrete, pest and asbestos management, lead abatement towards a goal of meeting silver LEED requirements on the new Mt. Airy school before silver LEED becomes mandatory.

Processes are in place in the Carroll County Public Schools to track utility usage and cost comparison with strategies of performance contracting in place, i.e. kitchen sink foot pedals for water conservation, automatic HVAC, auto lighting sensors; encouraging recycling, a result of student desire, and using green certified products for cleaning and floor care. A “Tools for Schools Program” was established to educate

occupants in areas to increase efficiency, such as not placing books on heating and cooling vents, allowing free air flow around thermostats to avoid false readings, etc.

Mr. Prokop and Mr. Eilbacher fielded many questions from the EAC on their consideration of green roofs, site location to reduce bus traffic and walker safety, kitchen composting, if discounts on recycling versus trash hauling and use of Styrofoam.

Ms. Kim Petry stated the CCPSs have done a good job and she is “very impressed” with their efforts.

Ms. Robyn Gilden congratulated the CCPSs on their efforts and thanked them for coming.

OPEN FORUM: - None

OLD BUSINESS – Brian Rhoten updated the Council on the Tree Committee progress:

- Notes have not yet been incorporated into current ordinance to go forth with this issue
- Not much conversation regarding the Library project since the last EAC meeting
- Tree Committee wishes to encourage more planting throughout the County
- Working on potential change in tree planting from over five acres to over three acres
- Tom Robertson’s knowledge of a state tax benefit not being utilized as a potential possibility

Mr. Brian Rhoten to update the EAC at the January, 2010 meeting on additional progress hoped to be made by that time.

NEW BUSINESS - “Energy Star” Partner County – Mr. Neil Ridgely handed out an information paper on Energy Star asking the EAC to weigh in if this idea has merit. Council was asked to let Mr. Ridgely know their thoughts on this issue.

Mr. Ridgely’s additional comments/items:

- Mr. Ridgely also thanked the EAC for their support of the Sustainability Coordinator position.
- Mr. Ridgely advised the EAC that the \$250,000 grant from the Department of Energy should be ready to be announced within the next two weeks with only one local bank cooperating. Monies will be available at low interest rates and available up to five years and capped at \$15,000.00 per applicant for energy improvements to homeowners. Mr. Ridgely will return to the EAC in January, 2010, to brief the Council on the progress of the energy dollars.
- Mr. Ridgely announced a showing of the Story of Stuff, life cycle of products from the cradle to the grave, on December 9, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., or, it can be viewed on-line at storyofstuff.org
- Mr. Ridgely stated the greenhouse gas inventory for 2007 has been completed, to be used as a baseline, but a decision to go forth has not yet been made to plug in the data received. Ms. Cindy Parr advised, as she had at a previous meeting, to contact the McDaniel Environmental Science majors to assist in completing this task with possible credits in their major. Ms. Parr added that contacting Carroll Community College could be done as well. Chair Gilden suggested unpaid high school internships.

- Mr. Ridgely concluded he was glad to see Mr. Brian Rhoten's progress with the County's Tree Commission.

Environmental Awareness Awards – Ms. Kim Petry, Vice Chair.

Ms. Petry asked for ideas, due to budget constraints, regarding awards for this year's Environmental Awareness Award recipients. Mr. Brian Rhoten volunteered to solicit area nurseries to donate a tree to be planted in their honor. Ms. Petry agreed to coordinate the awards ceremony with Vivian Laxton in conjunction with County Government Week. Ms. Petry will edit the online nomination documents and coordinate the 2010 changes to this on-line application with the County's webmaster, Mike Miller. The 2009 Environmental Awareness Awards Committee members again volunteered their time on this committee and will serve as the judges - Sandy Zebal, Robyn Gilden and Kim Petry.

Ms. Gilden asked the Council to review the 2011 meeting dates asking for a motion to adopt.

2011 MEETING DATES ADOPTED: MOTION NO. 99-09: Motion made by Brian Rhoten, seconded by Kim Petry, to adopt the 2011 meeting dates as presented. Motion carried.

COUNCIL MEMBERS – Issues for future consideration –Water Resource Element ~ Ms. Gilden announced the Water Resource Element can be reviewed on the County website. The document is very large and members may wish to review it on-line. Comments or concerns should be brought along to the January 12, 2010, 3:00 p.m. meeting. There will be a presentation by Ms. Brenda Dinne and Mr. Tom Devilbiss of Planning.

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Ms. Gilden announced the next regularly scheduled meeting, an **afternoon** meeting, will be held **Tuesday, January 12, 2010, at 3:00 p.m.** in Room 003/004

ADJOURN: MOTION NO. 100-09: Motion made by Kim Petry, seconded by Sandy Zebal, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Please inform the secretary if you are unable to attend