

Carroll County ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL



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Sandra Zebal, Chair
Kim Petry, Vice Chair

Brenda Dinne, Staff Liaison
Department of Land Use,
Planning, and Development

Meeting Summary for February 20, 2013

Members Present

Sandy Zebal, Chair
Karen Leatherwood
Josh Hatkin
Kim Petry
Chris Spaur

Other Attendees

Ellen Cutsail
Jason Myers

County Government

Kim Dubbert, Recording Secretary
Tom Devilbiss, Deputy Director, Land Use, Planning
& Development
Jay Voight, Zoning Administrator

CALL TO ORDER –

Ms. Sandra Zebal, Chair, officially called the February 20, 2013, meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in Room 003 of the County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion 171-13: Motion was made by Josh Hatkin and seconded by Kim Petry to approve the January 16, 2012, minutes. Motion carried.

CHAIR & COMMITTEE REPORTS –

- a. CHAIR: Nothing additional to report.
- b. SOLID WASTE: Nothing additional to report on the Solid Waste Work Group.

TREE COMMISSION –

Nothing to report.

STAFF LIASION REPORT –

It was suggested that the EAC members be split into two groups; one group for the Stormwater Fee Advisory Group and the other for Solar Panels. The Stormwater Fee Advisory Group will be a larger group and will need a larger room for meetings. The availability of a larger room will play a role in scheduling meetings.

OLD BUSINESS –

- a. PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS: Motion was made by Chris Spaur and seconded by Kim Petry to approve the changes to Bylaws.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. NOMINATION & ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR: Josh Hatkin accepted the nomination to be Chair and Sandy Zebal accepted the nomination to be Vice Chair. Karen Leatherwood felt there would be more of a benefit with Ms. Zebal being Vice Chair since Mr. Hatkin is still fairly new to the EAC. These changes will take effect starting in March. Kim Petry seconded the motion for the changes.

- b. POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL WORK PLAN ASSIGNMENT: SOLAR PANELS: The suggestion for the solar panels came from Commissioner Frazier. Jay Voight, Zoning Administrator, gave a little back ground on the solar panels. The research started about a year ago and is only allowed in industrial zoning, not in residential. Research is being done for surrounding counties, Mt. Saint Mary's has a 100 acre solar field and Snyder's of Hanover has a 26 acre solar field. On March 11th, there will be a trip to see the solar panels at Mt. Saint Mary's and Snyder's of Hanover. The vans will be leaving the County Office Building around 8:30 in the morning. Lippy Brothers have about an acre and a half of solar panels on their farm. They can sell back any electric not being used to the electric company. The solar panels can only be used for that farm. Solar panels are also allowed on homes. Government grants are available for solar panels. Tax breaks are also available and are renewable. Some code research has been done, but no research has been done in regards to Pennsylvania codes and laws. The Solar Panel group will work in conjunction with Jay Voight. Mr. Devilbiss mentioned that one of the biggest issues will be the rural setting in Carroll County. There will also be a change in the zoning laws regarding the solar panels. The EAC's recommendations will be needed and can provide the education to the general public. The solar panels are not a permanent structure and can be removed fairly easily. Ms. Petry did volunteer to be part of the Solar Panel group since she is familiar with it. Ms. Petry suggested having someone come in and talk to the group about solar panels being installed. Mr. Devilbiss suggested having someone come in who actually owns and uses the solar panels.

OTHER –

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

None

ADJOURNMENT - MOTION NO. 172-13: Motion made by Kim Petry and seconded by Josh Hatkin to adjourn the January meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 003 of the County Office Building.