



Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council

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Josh Hatkin, Chair
Sandra Zebal, Vice Chair

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

Meeting Summary for May 15, 2013

Members

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

Other Attendees

County Government

Brenda Dinne, Special Projects Coordinator
Kim Dubbert, Recording Secretary
Tom Devilbiss, Deputy Director, Dept. of Land
Use, Planning & Development

CALL TO ORDER –

Mr. Josh Hatkin, Chair, officially called the May 15, 2013, meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Reagan Room (003) of the County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion 179-13: Motion was made by Karen Leatherwood and seconded by Kim Petry to approve the April 17, 2013. Motion carried.

CHAIR & COMMITTEE REPORTS –

- a. SOLAR ARRAY SUBCOMMITTEE: Ms. Petry went over the discussion from the last meeting that the subcommittee had. She stated they were working on the definition of solar farms. She shared her draft definition with the other members. At the last meeting, Mr. Voight provided definitions that 10 other counties are using. Ms. Petry suggested using the term “solar energy facility.” She also mentioned the subcommittee stayed late at the last meeting to try to get things done.
- b. STORMWATER FEE ADVISORY GROUP: Mr. Hatkin suggested Ms. Dinne bring the group up to date on the Stormwater Fee Advisory Group meeting. Ms. Dinne briefly summarized the preliminary draft rate structure that the Advisory Group had developed thus far. She summarized the draft approach to date for addressing farms with soil conservation plans and non-profits. Ms. Zebal asked how condos and townhomes were going to be treated. Ms. Dinne replied that, thus far, the Advisory Group has suggested grouping all condos into

the rate category that matches the average square footage of impervious area for condos. They would be too complicated to calculate individually since several condos sit on one parcel. Townhomes, however, cannot be isolated from the other residential properties. Therefore, townhomes would likely be measured like single-family homes.

TREE COMMISSION –

Ms. Leatherwood mentioned her husband is working with the Lions Club to get American chestnuts planted in the county.

STAFF LIASION REPORT –

New Members: Ms. Dinne has not heard anything on new members for the EAC. Mr. Hatkin indicated that he had e-mailed Mr. Powell to inquire about the status. Mr. Powell replied that, once the budget talks/decisions were done, the Board would then discuss the issue of new members for the EAC. Ms. Zebal mentioned her term expires in July. She served one year on someone else's term, but she only served one full term of her own. She indicated that she is interested in being reappointed for another term. Ms. Dinne will ensure the Board is aware of her upcoming term expiration and her interest in being reappointed.

OLD BUSINESS –

Vacancies: Mr. Hatkin mentioned it has been almost a year for the vacancies for the EAC.

NEW BUSINESS –

Next Projects or Issues: Ms. Dinne mentioned the Stormwater Fee Advisory Group will only go through June. Ms. Leatherwood asked if there are any new projects on the horizon after the solar energy and stormwater fee. Ms. Dinne replied that the EAC will probably go back to concentrating on the energy use and cost savings project. Ms. Leatherwood commented that solid waste will probably come back up.

Ms. Petry originally intended to take the lead on the Energy Use & Cost Savings project. She mentioned she will be accelerating work on her PhD. Therefore, she will not have time to gather information like she wanted to, but will still be able to attend the meetings. Ms. Dinne indicated that she will not have time or resources to do the administrative side. Mr. Hatkin offered to take the lead and try to do some of the research. He said he would check with McDaniel College to see if any interns are available to help. Ms. Zebal will share with Mr. Hatkin her notes from where they left off previously. Ms. Petry also offered to share her file with Mr. Hatkin.

OTHER –

- a. *June 19 Meeting:* Ms. Leatherwood asked if the EAC should meet in June if there will not be a Stormwater Fee Advisory Group meeting. The consensus of the advisory group was not to meet if there was not going to be a SWFAG meeting. Ms. Dinne will take care of canceling the meeting if the Advisory Group does not need to meet on June 19.
- b. *Member Terms:* Ms. Zebal asked if Mr. Spaur's term expires this year. Ms. Dinne responded that it expires in January 2014.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

None

ADJOURNMENT - MOTION NO. 180-13: Motion made by Sandra Zebal and seconded by Kim Petry to adjourn the May meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. in Reagan Room (003) of the County Office Building. This meeting will be canceled if the Stormwater Fee Advisory Group does not meet that date.