



Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council

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Craig Paskoski, Chair
Curtis Barrett, Vice Chair

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*Brenda Dinne,
Staff Liaison/Secretary
Department of Planning
& Land Management*

Meeting Summary for January 17, 2024

Members

- Curtis Barrett
- Monica Blumberg
- Craig Connell
- Neal Goldberg
- Kathleen Marasco
- Charlene Norris
- Craig Paskoski
- Tom Scanlan
- Tamara Strobel

County Government

- Brenda Dinne, Special Projects Coordinator/ EAC Staff Liaison/Secretary
- Denise Mathias, EAC Admin Support

Guest Speaker(s)

- n/a

Other Attendees

- n/a

1. CALL TO ORDER –

- Mr. Paskoski, Chair, officially called the January 17, 2024, meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) to order at 3:01 PM in Room 204 of the County Office Building.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES –

a. January 17, 2024

Discussion/Decision:

- Approval of the November minutes was discussed. No revisions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion 459-24: Motion was made by Tom Scanlan and seconded by Kathleen Marasco to approve the November 15, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Reference/Attachment(s):

- www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/boards-commissions/environmental-advisory-council/meetings/

3. STAFF LIAISON REPORT –

Discussion/Decision:

- Next month's meeting will be held virtually on February 21, 2024, at 6:30 PM. If the BCC concurs with the proposed work plan, scopes will be reviewed for the public outreach projects regarding food waste reduction and outreach to scouts. The water conservation public outreach content will be discussed.
- The annual joint meeting with the Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for January 25, 2024.
- Ms. Strobel's and Ms. Norris' terms will expire on January 31, 2024. The Commissioners' office has been notified for discussion at the Board's quarterly meeting to discuss vacancies on boards and commissions.
- Ms. Strobel and Mr. Scanlan will not be available for the February 21 meeting.

4. **NEW BUSINESS –**

a. **Water Conservation Public Outreach – Discussion**

Discussion:

- After the recent amount of rainfall, discussion questioned the need to make this project a high priority or if water conservation measures are still needed. Mr. Barrett shared Carroll County drought monitoring data, USFS well data, and climate forecast data from NOAA. Ms. Dinne indicated that she would coordinate with the counties' municipalities, through the Water Resource Coordination Council, to include information that would help them and their residents as well. She noted that the County's hydrogeologist has data specific to Carroll County and would be facilitating with the municipalities a determination of threat level in early spring. She also shared that, even if the drought warning is lifted, the municipalities encourage their customers to practice water conservation measures continually. This helps to address capacity issues for our public drinking water systems and to address issues related to climate change.
- Although the EAC will not be working on a project specific to planning for climate change, a speaker could be brought in as an informational speaker to keep the EAC up to speed on current climate change issues and actions.
- The EAC discussed the scope of the project. The project team who will be primarily responsible for the research and initial content will be Mr. Barrett, Ms. Blumberg, and Mr. Scanlan. The other EAC members will still participate in review and input throughout the process.

EAC Member Action Items:

- Mr. Scanlan, Ms. Blumberg, Mr. Barrett Research importance of water conservation and possible conservation measures that homeowners can implement; add basic content and source to content outline for review at February meeting.

Reference/Attachment(s):

- N/A

5. **BUSINESS IN PROGRESS –**

a. **2024 Work Plan – Discussion**

Discussion:

- The proposed 2024 work plan was approved for discussion with the Board of County Commissioners on January 25, 2024.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion 460-24: Motion was made by Curt Barrett and seconded by Kathleen Marasco to approve the 2023 Annual Report as amended with changes discussed. Motion carried.

EAC Member Action Items:

- n/a •

Reference/Attachment(s):

- N/A

6. OTHER -

a. Upcoming Public Outreach Events

- Once the Resource Management Bureau spring stream clean-up and/or tree planting/maintenance events are scheduled, the information will be shared with the EAC for participation.
- The EAC is interested in participating in an Earth Day event again, possibly a more hands-on event.
- Hood College is holding a climate summit on February 2 and 3, 2024. It will include speaker talks and presentations on food waste and redistribution.

b. Annual Joint Meeting with Board of County Commissioners - January 25, 2024

- At the meeting on January 25, as Chair, Mr. Paskoski will review the 2023 Annual Report and the proposed projects for the 2024 work plan with the Board.
- Mr. Goldberg, Ms. Blumberg, and Mr. Barrett will be unavailable for the meeting.
- Ms. Dinne will provide the Chair with bulleted highlights to reference.

c. Upcoming Public Outreach Events

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d. 2024 Legislation

- A bill related to food waste was introduced in the Maryland General Assembly this session. Ms. Dinne will give a summary at the February meeting.
- Several solar bills are expected to be introduced as well.

e. Proposed Work Plan Projects

- If the Board concurs with the proposed 2024 work plan, the project teams for the food waste reduction and outreach to scouts projects will be as follows:
 - Food Waste Reduction: Mr. Paskoski, Ms. Strobel, Mr. Connell, Ms. Norris
 - Outreach to Scouts: Ms. Marasco and Mr. Goldberg
- These teams would complete the initial research and drafting of the public outreach sections. However, all members would participate in review and feedback throughout the process.
- Ms. Dinne will begin securing informational speakers to present regarding for food waste.

EAC Member Action Items:

- n/a

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS & CONCERNS -

- None.

8. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING -

- The meeting adjourned at 4:11 PM. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 6:30 PM via GoToMeeting.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT - MOTION 461-24: Motion was made by Tamara Strobel and seconded by Curt Barrett to adjourn the January 17, 2024, meeting. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ☐ *Regular Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, February 21, 2024 @ 6:30 PM, via GoToMeeting*