

Sustainable Monocacy Commission meeting
Thursday, March 24, 2022
Video Meeting

Members present: Charles Eirkson, Gary Magnuson, Lonnie Ropp, Kim Stewart, Andy Celmer, Matt Moran, Bill Allen (Chair), Peter Sicilia

Members absent: Councilmember Jerry Donald, Glen Dunham, City Alderwoman Katie Nash

County Staff: Tim Goodfellow, Kimberly Golden Brandt

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Andy Celmer motioned to approve the February 2022 meeting minutes. Lonnie Ropp seconded motion. Unanimous approval.

Matt Moran presented the SMC logo that he designed. Members expressed gratitude for his time and effort to create the logo. Andy Celmer motioned to approve the logo; Lonnie Ropp seconded motion. Unanimous approval. Tim mentioned that there is a County review process for logos created for boards and commissions, but that he anticipates no objection to the SMC logo.

The April 30, 2022 River clean up event was discussed. Chuck had visited the initial sites that were identified for possible clean up locations. Pinecliff Park had very little rubbish, so that site was excluded. Gary mentioned inventory cards that are used to document the type and quantity of items collected during ocean clean up events in California and other places. The clean up subcommittee agreed to meet at the Gambrill Mill on Monday, March 28, 2022 to scout-out locations for a trash clean up at the Monocacy Battlefield.

The group discussed future work topics or issues for further exploration or action. Gary Magnuson suggested having a facilitated meeting for goal and priority setting and a strategic discussion of tasks or activities the SMC could undertake.

Bill Allen supported the idea of a revision to the 2009 River Report, with a new section on the agriculture sector's improvements to water quality through implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs). Andy Celmer mentioned the multiple action items contained in the Climate Response and Resilience report from the Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup that the SMC could investigate for work. Gary Magnuson stated that the 2nd phase of the Hood College Monocacy River Water Quality summary is needed to more closely identify nutrient 'hot-spot' areas where loadings are high, and the BMPs that would help achieve pollution reduction.

Gary Magnuson suggested that a presentation be given to the SMC on the role that septic systems play in water quality. Chuck expressed a desire to get more data on air deposition of nitrogen into waterways. Andy discussed general pollution levels from septic systems.

Charles motioned that Bill Allen be appointed chair and Lonnie Ropp be appointed to Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, for the year (March 2022 – March 2023). Matt Moran seconded motion. Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15am.

Submitted by Tim Goodfellow