

Sustainable Monocacy Commission meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2022
Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland

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

Due to previously-scheduled commitments, Councilmember Jerry Donald and City Alderwoman Katie Nash could not attend.

County Staff: Tim Goodfellow

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Commission members spoke favorably about meeting in-person again after months of video meetings.

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

The Commission discussed final details for the Saturday, April 30, 2022 clean up event at the Monocacy National Battlefield. Chuck Eirkson mentioned the presence of many tires along the River on the Worthington Farm portion of the Battlefield. Gary Magnuson discussed the April 18, 2022 article in the Frederick NewsPost about clean in the Frederick Municipal Forest (aka 'Watershed') and the use of forms to document and inventory the collected debris. Lonnie Ropp added that the Commission should pursue and develop partnerships with other groups who perform litter removal and trash pick-ups. Tim Goodfellow stated that the Commission's April 30 event would be highlighted on the County's Twitter & Instagram accounts and Facebook page, plus the Commission's web page. Another social media post will occur when the Commission's logo is approved.

It was agreed that the May 2022 meeting will include a tour of Greenfield Road, adjacent to the Monocacy River in the southern portion of the County, for discussion of its possible enrollment into the County's Adopt-A-Road program by the Commission.

The Commission agreed to proceed with a 'refresh' of the 2009 River Report, a short educational/informational document produced by the prior River Board (Carroll County/Frederick County). Tim Goodfellow spoke about the new initiatives, policies, regulations, and programs that have been established since the creation and publication of the River Report in 2008 and 2009. The Commission requested that Google Docs be used for future editing of the document.

Tim Goodfellow discussed the Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan that the County has produced, which is currently being reviewed by the County's Planning Commission. Tim Goodfellow shared a powerpoint presentation on the Sugarloaf Plan, its development, and highlights of the Plan's policies and recommendations that he gave the day before to the County's Sustainability Commission.

Gary Magnuson spoke about future briefings to further the Commission's knowledge and awareness of a variety of water quality, land use, and environmental protection issues. Gary Magnuson communicated with faculty from Hood College about topics, which included septic systems and the State of Maryland's Integrated Report on Surface Water Quality. The Commission had presentations from the Maryland Dept. of Agriculture, the Frederick/Catoctin Soil Conservation District, and from the County's Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources about the County's stormwater permit program.

Tim announced the sad news of the death of Commission member, Glenn Dunham.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

Submitted by Tim Goodfellow