



Sustainable Monocacy Commission
Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
Winchester Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room
12 East Church Street, Frederick, MD

Members present: Bill Allen (Chair), Gary Magnuson, Matt Moran, Peter Sicilia, Kim Stewart

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

Guest speaker: Barry Glotfelty, Director - Environmental Health Service Frederick County Health Department

County Staff: Tim Goodfellow, Karin Flom

The Sustainable Monocacy Commission's October 27, 2022 meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m.

Chair Bill Allen opened the meeting with a review of the June 2022 meeting minutes and July 28, 2022 tour summary. Kim Stewart motioned to approve the June 2022 meeting minutes and July 28, 2022 tour summary; Gary seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Tim introduced the speaker from the Frederick County Health Department's Environmental Health Service, Barry Glotfelty. Barry discussed on-site sewage disposal systems, or "septic systems." Barry discussed that septic systems are a major, permanent piece of our sewerage infrastructure. The purpose of regulating septic systems is to protect ground water as a state resource and to protect public health of drinking water.

Barry presented information on the types of septic systems, how they function, conditions that impact performance such as soil types, geography, and geology, and newer technology which reduces nitrogen through increased treatment. The Commission discussed with Barry about the number of failing septic systems in the County, how much of a risk failing systems are, and what the Commission could do. Barry said it is difficult to know the number of failing systems

since by design the system is underground. Barry discussed some approaches that have either been tried or discussed in other jurisdictions, such as an annual septic system permit for property owners in Wisconsin and a discussion in Baltimore County about allowing for community septic systems. Additionally, Carroll County increased a permit fee for septic repair permits and the extra amount is used to assist low-income property owners replace a failing system and/or upgrade to an enhanced system.

Tim provided an update on the Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan. On Tuesday, October 25 the County Council approved the Plan except for the zoning overlay. The overlay would have applied a building size limit to non-agricultural and non-residential buildings, and prohibited certain uses. The overlay map and text were remanded (sent back) to the Planning Commission.

Tim introduced the update to the 2009 Monocacy River report and thanked Gary for his assistance and edits in the process so far. Members discussed a timeline to read and edit the report before the next meeting. On a motion from Gary and a second by Matt, the Commission unanimously approved a deadline of November 9 for providing edits and comments to staff and set the next meeting at November 16, 2022.

Tim discussed materials that were included in the packet that were a visioning exercise and the resulting vision statement from the joint river board in 2006. Chair Allen directed members to come to the next meeting with ideas for the vision statement and responses to Tim's question about what the board would like to do, learn, etc. in 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.