

**FREDERICK COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

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[www.sustainablefrederickcounty.org](http://www.sustainablefrederickcounty.org)

**October 19, 2022**

**Minutes of Meeting**

Welcome

Faith Klareich called the meeting to order at 3:02pm and reviewed the virtual meeting protocols.

Attendance:

Members

<u>X</u> Faith Klareich	<u>    </u> Tiffany Fossett	<u>X</u> Mark Sankey
<u>X</u> Jennifer Bird	<u>X</u> Elizabeth Law	<u>    </u> Ben Springer
<u>X</u> John Ferri	<u>X</u> Nathan Pool	<u>X</u> William Steigelmann

Public Officials/Staff Liaisons:

<u>X</u> Dawn Ashbacher, Manager, Climate and Energy, Frederick County Division of Energy and Environment	<u>    </u> Kai Hagen, Frederick County Council Liaison
<u>X</u> Shannon Moore, Director, Frederick County Division of Energy and Environment	

Approval of Minutes for September 21, 2022, meeting: Betty made a motion to approve the minutes. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Division of Energy and Environment (DEE) Update:

1. Shannon updates
  - a. Green Homes Challenge and Sustainability awards
  - b. Staff recruitment and new hires
  - c. Preparing for elections and new administration
  - d. MWCOG award
  - e. Alternative Fleet Vehicle Study
  - f. Updating models of existing fleet
  - g. EV Readiness Plan
  - h. Looking for stakeholder input options
  - i. Statewide NEVI Plan
  - j. Looking at grant opportunities
  - k. Uploading utility bills to automated system
  - l. Renewing electricity procurement contracts

m. Awaiting stormwater permits

-Bill asked about any Oak Street project updates. Shannon responded the division has provided schematics and information for feasibility assessment. Betty asked if improvements are being made to the existing building for the project to make it “tighter and more sustainable”. Shannon listed several improvements being made.

-Faith asked about the County applying for funds under the MD Smart Energy Communities Program. Shannon elaborated on possible projects for the funds.

-Faith asked if the County does/has/will respond to any infrastructure RFIs. Shannon responded they would like to, and they will if they can. Faith said to think about if there is anything the FCSC could do to help.

Legislative Recommendations to the County Executive Update – Chair

1. Faith said the recommendations had been submitted and reviewed, and they came back with questions about the solar funding portion. She said she followed up with clarifying language.

Update on Outreach for the South Frederick Design Project - John

1. John gave update on the student project; Howard University accelerated Urban Planning Design Master’s program student project to review, design, and present on the South Frederick Corridor; involves 25 students working with the FC Department of Planning to design the South Frederick Corridor for a school project.

What to Prepare for the Sustainability Awards- Chair/All

- Faith said everything looks to be ready and asked who is going to attend
- Jenn described the award

Invitation and Acknowledgement of Composting Programs for Youth – possible Next steps

- Faith opened discussion with background and asked if everyone was in favor of the invitation and acknowledgement
- Bill brought up the format being in-person in the past; Betty suggested having the meetings for the acknowledgements in-person; Dawn said it is up to the FCSC to have in-person meetings if they want to have them

Betty made a motion to start planning to have a special thank you for the Lunch Out of Landfill students who have been doing such a great job. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Subcommittee Updates

- South Frederick Corridor Plan – Faith
  - Waiting for results from pending survey
- Green Resources Energy Action Team (GREAT) – Bill

- Bill is doing a write-up on grants and funds
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Faith
  - Nothing new to report, but shared an idea for a future opportunity using Mobilize Frederick Summit as a springboard
  - Discussion on sensitivity on environmental justice

Bill suggested creating a climate change subcommittee. Faith replied by suggesting taking a look at the current subcommittees and needed subcommittees as a future agenda item. Shannon suggested the FCSC developing a plan on interacting with the new County Executive and what the FCSC would introduce to the new CE as key issues. Faith replied she would like to develop a plan, but she would like to have stakeholder meetings for input first.

#### Commissioner Interests

- Mark – County Council Sugarloaf Plan meeting and Strong’s opposition to the plan; UN Rep at Hood spoke about Sustainability Goals
- Betty – Gave an update after attending County Council Sugarloaf Plan meeting; Fort Detrick contaminated groundwater update
- Bill – Following Sugarloaf, Nuclear power, climate change, electricity supply of grids across the country; CA Governor would like to run 2 nuclear plants for another 10 years

Group discussion about upcoming elections and how the FCSC should interact with them.

#### Introduction to candidate- Chair

- Faith welcomed candidate Janet Ady
- Janet introduced herself
- The FCSC asked the candidate follow-up questions

#### Motion to Go into Closed Session

A motion was made by Mark and seconded by Bill at 4:50 p.m. to go into closed session. The FCSC entered closed session at 4:51 p.m.

The meeting was proposed to be in closed session pursuant to Maryland Annotated Code General Provisions Article 3305(b) (1) To discuss: (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or official over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Topic: To evaluate and possibly interview applicants that the Sustainability Commission may consider recommending for appointment to the Commission.

Open Session

The Commission returned to Open Session at 4:55 pm.

Jenn made the motion and Betty seconded the motion to recommend Janet Ady to the County Executive for appointment to the Sustainability Commission. The motion passed by unanimous decision.

Public comment:

No public comment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

**A recording of this meeting can be found on the Frederick County Sustainability Facebook page.**

The council meets the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm.

The next scheduled meeting will be November 16, 2022.