



Sustainable Monocacy Commission meeting
Thursday, May 19, 2022

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

Members absent: Lonnie Ropp, Peter Sicilia

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

County Staff: Tim Goodfellow

The Commission met at Buckeystown Park on Michaels Mill Road and had sandwiches from Juliette's Deli in Frederick. Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Chuck motioned to approve the minutes from the April 2022 meeting; Matt seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

The Commission agreed to change the meeting dates from the 3rd Thursday to the 4th Thursday of each month.

The Commission received summaries of the County's Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan and expressed a desire to receive a briefing on this Plan from the County's Division of Emergency Management. Septic systems and their nutrient inputs to ground and surface waters was another topic and issue the Commission wanted to learn more about through a future presentation from the County's Health Department.

Commission members indicated a desire to learn more about the source of pollutants entering our streams and the Monocacy River. Gary spoke about the need for a Phase II of the Monocacy River Water Quality Assessment, which analyzed a 30+ year data set of multiple water quality parameters taken from 4 locations along the Monocacy River. Phase II of the Assessment would include sampling from specific areas to obtain more detailed information about land use and

pollution loads from targeted subwatersheds. Gary stated that a new request from the Commission to the County and City of Frederick for funding Phase II should be made.

Gary also described his communication with Staff from the Maryland Department of the Environment regarding the 'Integrated Report' on surface water quality throughout the State. Tim and Gary will arrange a future briefing from MDE Staff about water quality from the State level.

The revision to the 2009 River Report was next discussed. Commission members stated that the revised informational report/brochure should include more information about accessing the River, stormwater management, County land use planning and the overall value of the River – socially, environmentally, economically, in addition to the items Tim had previously identified. Tim also stated that this effort could take 6 months to complete.

The new SMC logo designed by Matt will be announced on social media. When asked about attribution as the designer, Matt indicated that it was not necessary to add his name as the creator.

Tim stated that a tour of StreamLink Education's 40-acre tree planting along the River at the Waterside Community at MD 26 would be a good future event for the Commission.

After the short discussion, the members left Buckeystown and caravanned to Greenfield Road to walk, observe, and discuss the possibility of the SMC enrolling in the 'Adopt-A-Road' program for this road. After a drive and walk along Greenfield Road, the SMC discussed the fact that many people park along this Road and use the River for fishing, swimming, and gatherings, resulting in high levels of trash. The SMC agreed that the volume of trash and debris left along the River and Greenfield Road poses challenges for the SMC to adequately clean up the site, in fulfillment of the Adopt-A-Road's requirements, and a public perception issue for the SMC if the site is continually strewn with debris. Tim will investigate the placement of trash cans along the road, which would require either the County's Public Works Division or perhaps the Parks Department commitment.

A group photograph was taken adjacent to the River on Greenfield Road for future posting on social media.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Submitted by Tim Goodfellow