



Sustainable Forestry Council

580 Taylor Avenue – E-1 • Annapolis, Maryland 21401 • 410-260-8531

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY COUNCIL

September 10, 2013

Minutes

Eric Sprague, Chair
Alliance for the Chesapeake
Bay
Annapolis, MD 21403

Donald Outen
Natural Resource Manager
Baltimore County DEPRM
Towson, Maryland 21204

Gary Allen
Center for Chesapeake
Communities
Annapolis, MD 21401

Kirk Rodgers
Private landowner
Woolford, MD 21877

Connie Hoge
Carroll County Forestry
Board
Westminster, MD 21157

Kim Finch
MNCPPC,
Prince George's Co.
Planning Dept.
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Kenneth Roberts
NewPage Corporation
Westport, MD 21582

Alberto Goetzl
Dream Catcher Farm, LLC
Adamstown, MD 21710

Attendees:

Eric Sprague
Don Outen
Gary Allen
Al Goetzl
Kirk Rodgers
Ken Roberts
Kim Finch

DNR:

Don VanHassent
Steve Koehn
Dan Rider

Guests:

Nevin Dawson, UM Extension
Craig Highfield, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Called to order at 10:02 AM.

Don VanHassent updated the Council on several events including the status of Leslie Weldon as a potential new member of the Council. She has not yet submitted her application. Don advised that although she would be an excellent member, given her work schedule, attendance at Council meetings may be sparse. Don asked the members to think about whom else could be asked to fill the vacancy on the Council. The issues of by-laws, attendance and possibly alternate members will be discussed at the November meeting.

The morning portion was dedicated to learning about the “Private Landowner Outreach” efforts of three organizations.

University of Maryland Extension – Nevin Dawson

- Revised the “Woods in Your Backyard” publication
- Produced a pamphlet on thinning
- Using a Tree Farm grant to hold a series of Saturday workshops in September and early October in Dorchester, Baltimore, St. Mary’s and Allegany counties.
- Maryland Woodland Stewards is a 3 ½ day volunteer workshop. Participants are required to do 40 hours of outreach in the following year. Participation is capped at 25 per session.

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay – Craig Highfield

- Forests For The Bay – website and newsletter
- Working with Baltimore County on forest assessment of large multi-owner patches
- Developed a 3 ½ hour course for realtors. First was held in Allegany County in February with 60 attendees. Two classes were held in the Wicomico/Worcester area with 12 and 15 attendees respectively. Additional classes will be held in Baltimore County (Hunt Valley) and Cecil County.
- Developing a 14 page “Welcome to Your Woods” pamphlet that realtors can give to new forest landowners.
- Will be developing a “Succession Planning for Forest Landowners” class for 2014.

Forestry Boards – Gary Allen

- Started in 1943 and currently have over 200 members
- Natural Resources Conservation Camp for high school students interested in natural resource careers.
- Healthy Forests/Healthy Waters providing funding for implementation of BMPs on selected forested properties in targeted watersheds.
- A lot of small scale activities at the county level to raise forest awareness.

The three speakers were asked to get back to the Council with ideas on how to improve landowner outreach.

Dan Rider and Gary Allen provided a recap of the TREC task force to date. Dan represents DNR and Gary represents the Council. There has been one meeting so far with Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) doing a lot of work. Questions the task force will try to answer in as report due by the end of the year are as follows:

- Should we have a thermal renewable energy credit (TREC)?
- Should the TREC be Tier 1 or separate?
- What is the supply potential?
- Should there be fuel displacement thresholds?
- Should there be efficiency and metering requirements?
- What pricing and demand structures make sense?
- How should existing thermal facilities be handled?

John Rhoderick and Susan Payne (Maryland Department of Agriculture) gave a presentation on “Accounting for Growth (AfG) in Maryland”. The TMDL process gave load targets but also said that we have to account for growth that will happen. The AfG workgroup consisted of 17 stakeholders that held 10 meetings. A lot of uncertainty remains as to what it all means and what will happen. A copy of the report and a powerpoint will be posted on the Council website.

The next Council meeting will be November 12 at 100 Community Place in Crownsville.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald VanHassent