



Sustainable Forestry Council

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

Thursday, July 11, 2019

1pm-2:30pm

**580 Taylor Ave., E-1 corner Conference Room, Annapolis MD 21401
Conference Call- google hangouts**

Gary Allen
Center for Chesapeake
Communities
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Kenneth Roberts
Verso Corporation
Westernport, MD 21562

Alberto Goetzl, chair
Dream Catcher Farm,
LLC
Adamstown, MD 21710

Bryan Seipp
Center for Watershed
Protection
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Elizabeth Hill
Dorchester Forestry Bd.
Linkwood, MD 21835

Donnelle Keech
The Nature Conservancy
Cumberland, MD 21502

Bill Rees
Catonsville Tree Canopy
Committee
Catonsville, MD 21228

SFC members:

Al Goetzl
Gary Allen
Bryan Seipp
Bill Rees
Beth Hill
Donnelle Keech

DNR Staff:

Don VanHassent
Daniel Rider
Anne Hairston-Strang

Guests:

Nancy Nunn
Josh Bollinger
Jason Dubow

Action Items:

Al Goetzl, Chair, opened the Sustainable Forestry Council (SFC) conference call at 1:25pm, following technical difficulties with Google Hangouts connections. He asked for any revisions to the April meeting minutes. He moved that the minutes be accepted after one additional week of review and be approved if there are no changes received; it was seconded and approved.

Don VanHassent, State Forester, delivered the DNR update, noting level budgets, five recent contractual conversions, continued dual certification of State Forests, and the public comment period on potential revisions to Chesapeake Forest hunting leases though 8/19.

Nancy Nunn from the Harry R. Hughes Center for AgroEcology provided an update on the SB729 Forestry Technical Study. She said they received a grant from MD Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF) to support some mapping and data analysis for the project, and they are confirming the different data sources that agencies can provide. They are working with the Eastern Shore Regional GIS Center and Smart Growth GIS information, and will participate in the Dec. 12 Rural Maryland Council Summit.

Jason Dubow with MD Dept. of Planning provided a review of Sustainable Growth Commission priorities and opportunities for forest conservation and expansion. The Commission was created in 2010 with broad scope for economic growth and resource protection, and will sunset in 2020 unless reauthorized. The Rural Economies Workgroup has a Sustainable Forestry Subcommittee. Work

incorporating forestry has included a landowner brochure on tree species and permitting processes, forestry elements in the Better Maryland Plan, and issues in the Saltwater Intrusion plan.

Dan Rider provided a summary of the recently submitted Economic Adjustment Strategy Development and other supporting grants from MAERDAF, including a Western MD woodyard feasibility analysis, MFA/AFI outreach on forest markets, and woody biomass policy forum. Gary Allen explained the biomass policy grant. Dan explained the importance of including forestry issues in the regional economic development plans.

The forest markets issues will be discussed with MD Dept. of Environment staff at the 10/8 Future of Forestry Meeting. Another SFC meeting is scheduled for 12/13.

Al Goetzl adjourned the meeting at 2:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hairston-Strang
Maryland Forest Service