

ECO Working Group Meeting Minutes January 14, 2016

The meeting was convened at 10:30 at the Maryland Department of the Environment by acting Working Group Chair, Samantha Kappalman.

Attending in person: Tad Aburn (MDE Air Director), Lisa Nissley (MDE), Mark Shaffer (MDE), Liz Entwisle (MDE), Brian Hug (MDE), Allison Rich (MDEHN), John Coleman (MDP), Colleen Turner (MDOT), Larissa Johnson (UMCES), Dave Costello (consultant).

Attending by phone: Samantha Kappalman (The Hatcher Group), Michele Peterson (Honeywell), Pat Harcourt (UMCES), Samantha Lozano (DHCD), Kristen Peterson (DNR), Coreen Weilminster (DNR), Joe Hart (MDA), Devan Willemsen (MEA).

Welcome and opening remarks. Samantha convened the meeting and members introduced themselves.

MCCC Update. Tad Aburn reported that a group of MCCC members is actively working with Senator Pinsky on a bill to renew the GGRA of 2009. The bill is very similar to the GRRRA law with an emphasis on staying on track to meet the 2020 goal with positive jobs and economic impacts. It adds the MCCC's recommended State goal of reducing GHG emissions by 40% by 2030 and directs MDE to submit a plan in 2019 to meet this goal. Tad and Lisa Nissley reported that MCCC Chair Ben Grumbles and other MCCC members will brief three legislative committees on the bill on these dates:

House Economic Matters Committee– Jan. 20 at 10:30
House Energy & Transportation Committee – Jan. 26 at 11:00
Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs – Jan. 26 at 1:00

Tad reported that the MCCC's Steering Committee will have a retreat on Jan. 21 which will include consideration of how to improve MCCC's guidance to the working groups on work plans and other matters. Tad recommended that ECO hold off on finalizing its work plan until it receives this guidance.

2016 Work Plan. Samantha led members in a discussion and group edit of the draft work plan, which she and Allison Rich recorded. Creating a platform for internal communications for the MCCC and its working groups and finding resources for this and other work plan tasks were identified as priorities. Kristen Peterson agreed to talk to Matt Fleming (DNR) about serving as the Adaptation Working Group's liaison for ECO. Pat Harcourt recommended bringing in groups of educators to promote climate literacy among Maryland's citizenry and adding this as a work plan element.

Adjournment. Tad recommended that subsequent meetings be set up as webinars to facilitate group viewing and editing of documents. Samantha asked members to consider whether they wanted to continue meeting at ECO's standing time of second Thursdays of the month at 10:30, noting that ECO's Chair had a conflict with this time. Samantha said she would send out a doodle poll for the February meeting and adjourned the meeting at 12:00.