

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

November 8, 2017, 1:00 - 3:00 pm – MDE

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Ben Grumbles, Nancy Kopp, Donna Balado, Susan Payne, Barry Powell, Mark Belton, Colleen Turner, Jason Dubow, John Fiastro, Colby Ferguson, Charles Deegan, Russ Dickerson, Deborah Prout, Larry Kasecamp, Jim Strong, Mike Tidwell, Stuart Clarke, Mike Powell, Dana Stein, Dick D'Amato, Michael Bibb, Steve Pattison, Larry Liebesman, Jim Doyle, Pam Kasemeyer, Jim George, James Bradbury, Chris Beck, Joe Lutz, Erick Thunell, Brian Hug, Jess Herpel, Tad Aburn, Lisa Nissley, David Smedick, David Costello, Jess Herpel, Tom Walz, Lisa Hoerger, Alicia Moran, Allison Gost, John Kumm, Luke Wisniewski

Phone: Don Boesch, Ian Ullman (for Senator Pinsky), Deni Taveras, Lori Arguelles

Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

- Today's main issue is to review and vote on 2017 Annual Report
- This includes a new recommendation we will discuss

Item #2: Review of the 2017 Annual Report

- Reviewed Executive Summary; new since last meeting but mainly taken from text within the Report.
 - Function was clarified: it will be in the front of report, ECO may modify for distribution purposes, but will run this through the Steering Committee after their discussions.
- Summary of changes to ES requested at the meeting:
 - Re-phrasing if first paragraph, "...consequentially to the resources and services upon which humans rely..." (also change in body of Report)
 - Approved DNR's additional language, except remove "therein" at end of sentence (second-to-last paragraph)
 - Clarify what is meant by "...the State of Maryland and the Maryland Department of the Environment..."
 - Change to "...MDE and other State entities..."
 - Don Boesch noted that he emailed in several minor changes related to the Executive Summary (non-substantive), including that anthropogenic should be changed to a more generally understood word. It was determined that "human activities" would be substituted. Other minor edits were approved to be made by MDE staff at their discretion.
 - Russ Dickerson requested that air quality and human health impacts be included in the Executive Summary, most likely as an additional bullet. This was approved to be worked on by MDE staff.

- Overview was given of untracked changes, and other revisions that may have been of interest were also gone over one at a time via the slide deck.
 - Additional recommendation for the Commission to consider, provided by Sierra Club
 - Was reviewed at MWG and S.C. level
 - Proposed language was accepted with no contest
 - Ch3 public transportation (pg 32) additional language
 - Stuart asked for explanation on this language and it was provided briefly. No changes were requested.

Item #3: Approval of the 2017 Annual Report

- Report approved by consensus (none abstained, none opposed)
- MDE made the Commission aware it was continuing to work with the leadership of the MWG to amend a recommendation found in the appendix of the report related to labor. The recommendations in the main body of the report would not be altered or amended by these continued discussions. MDE made the Commission aware during the vote on the report that the appendix language would change and the Commission raised no objection to this action.

Item #4: Working Group Reports

- ARWG - no meeting since last Commission meeting, upcoming in December.
- ECO - no meeting has occurred since the last Commission meeting. Upcoming meetings in November and December will focus on Report distribution and 2018 Work Plan; any items or requests regarding the Report will be delivered to the Steering Committee.
- MWG - next meetings on 11/17, 12/15 to set priorities and work plan for 2018; please share ideas early and often
- STWG - no meeting since last Commission meeting, upcoming in December.

Item #5: Looking Ahead to 2018

- Next MCCC meetings for 2018 planned 1-3pm at MDE
 - April 24, June 19, Sept 18, October 23, November 7

Item #6: Public Comment

- Larry Liebesman from Citizens Climate Lobby
 - Made carbon pricing presentation to MWG in September, and provided suggested language for a recommendation.
 - Concerned that there is nothing in current report on carbon pricing
 - It was noted that this was discussed for inclusion in the MWG's Work Plan, which has not yet been finalized and is not part of the present Report.

Meeting adjourned 2:19