

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Steering Committee

May 3, 2018 10:00AM - 12:00PM

Minutes

On the Phone: Ben Grumbles, Brian Hug, Peter Goodwin, Susanne Brogan, Colleen Turner, Mike Powell, Susan Payne, Anne Lindner, Stuart Clarke, Tad Aburn, Lori Arguelles, Dave Nemazie (UMCES), Lisa Nissley (MDE), Jess Herpel (MDE), Luke Wisniewski (MDE), Jason Dubow (MDP), Donald Goldberg (Climate Law & Policy Project).

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Brian called the meeting to order and attendance was taken over the phone.

2. Reports from the Working Groups

- MWG - Last meeting May 3rd on natural gas, recommendations tbd at MWG steering committee level; next meeting May 31st on carbon markets and healthy soils, plus a discussion from 1-3pm regarding 40 by 30 modeling. Tad requested feedback from the S.C. regarding process, in light of the Commission discussion in April. Discussion among S.C. members who are also on MWG reflected a need for more discussion-oriented and less presentation-oriented agendas; this will be discussed more in depth at the upcoming MWG S.C. meeting.
- STWG - There will be a meeting on sea-level rise sometime in June. Minutes from the January meeting are still needed.
- ECO - ECO has not met since the MCCC Meeting, but will meet next week. The focus is on tracking outreach efforts so we can better judge what is productive and useful and where we should focus efforts. We continue to work on the Climate Champions, Climate Ambassadors, and to develop a plan for GGRA outreach with MDE.
- ARWG - The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 7th.

3. State of the Coast Meeting (Need for MCCC coordination on that meeting?)

- Secretary Grumbles reminded everyone of the upcoming State of the Coast conference, and thanked DNR for their work in putting it together.

4. Structure of MCCC Meetings

- Use time to share more substantive info about MWG proposed recommendations, to address concerns regarding what is being examined and to demonstrate the work, quality and approach. However, if this leads to Commission discussing unfinalized recommendations, that may defeat the purpose of the working groups having gathered the information and begun discussions themselves (short-circuit the process of WG as a proving ground); perhaps instead improve upon updates given to the Commission from the WGs. It was suggested that we may pull key conversations from MWG minutes thus far and share this with the Commission to give them a sense of the approach.
- Regarding what information should be prioritized, perhaps the 40 by 30 Draft Plan. It was again emphasized that there should be room given for discussion, and less presentations.

5. Other Business

The next meeting upcoming may be in Cambridge MD, and the details will be finalized in the coming weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08AM