

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Mitigation Working Group Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2015 from 9:30-10:30

Maryland Department of the Environment, Baltimore, MD 21230

In Attendance: Ben Grumbles; George Aburn; Mike Powell; Stuart Clarke; Brian Hug; David Costello

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

Update on Future Meeting Schedule:

- October 19- 1 pm- 3 pm, MWG Meeting (Location MDE) - RESCHEDULED FOR 26TH
- October 22nd- 10am- 12pm MCCC Steering Committee Meeting (4thThursday of the month meeting) (Location: MDE-SERV CR)
- October 23- 10am- 11am, MWG Steering Committee Conference Call (Bi-Weekly)
- October 26- 12 pm- 2 pm, MWG Meeting (Location MDE- Aqua/Terra CR)
 - Review MDE Report
- October 29- 2 pm- 4 pm Full MCCC meeting (Location: MDE- Aqua & Aeris CR)
 - MCCC to get input from MWG as to what they thought about MDE Report
 - Tad: MDE can provide overview of MDE report now
 - Stuart: by 10/29 we'll need consensus on MDE report and be prepared to give response to full Commission.
 - Need feedback from MWG before 10/19

Proposed Agenda for 10/26 MWG meeting:

- Short briefing on MDE report
- MCCC report status
- Emerging issues
- ECO workgroup status
- Adaptation working group status – Needs to be a priority moving forward
 - DNR and MDE (small groups) should meet about Adaptation

Mike P: important how the MCCC frame issues:

- Goal attainment, emerging issues, etc.
- Prioritizing issues is pre-mature
- Mandate or recommendation?
- Framing is key

Tad: proposed a “Range” for goal setting beyond 2020

Stuart: Need for more procedure in Commission.

- More Working group feedback and communication
- Need to decide the manner at which we seek or get consensus
- Need to address dissemination of letters (ex; Sparrow Point)
- Establishing roles and functions
- In 2016, Commission needs to set expectations and establish process
- MWG as advisory group or stakeholder (function?)
- Do we need by-laws?

Mike P:

- Participants and stakeholders need to feel like their comments are heard
- Mailing list for submitting comments?
- Need procedures
- How are decisions made? Votes? Need Majority > 2/3?
- Consensus question is procedural
- Members can make a motion at any point at meetings and electronically
- Role of MWG is to take important issues to MCCC

Tad: We need stakeholders to speak up (ex WTE, Fracking, etc) Need MCCC to reach out to constituents.

Stuart: When reports come out – comments will come. We'll need procedures to process input

Mike P: Two important issues moving fwd:

- What is future goal percentage?
- What is tone of report?
 - Example: Red Line: failure or success? Depends on who you ask.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 with a few statements from Sec Grumbles.

- Tone has to be one of positivity
- MCCC is productive and active and seeks different views on the tough issues
- Need to find common ground
- Not about damage control
- Commission has an important role moving the state forward
- Must remember Adaptation