

Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice & Sustainable Communities (CEJSC)

9:30 a.m-11:30 a.m

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

**Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21230**

In Attendance

- Commissioners: Lisa Nissley, Dick Fairbanks, Rebecca Rehr, Benoy Thomas,
- Subha Chandar, Tanex Moyer Cornick, Vernice Miller-Travis,

- Participants: Duane Johnson, Angelo Bianco, Delegate Clarence Lam, Crystal Lemieux, Louis Jones, Jeaneen Logan, Stephanie Cobb Williams, Michelle Larue

Introductions

Lisa Nissley started the meeting by welcoming everyone and inviting everyone to introduce themselves. All persons in attendance introduced themselves along with their positions.

CEHPAC Discussion

- Subha gave an update on collaborating with the Children's Environmental Health Protection Advisory Council
- CEHPAC is focused on issues surrounding cell towers near schools and synthetic field turf. They also work on lead issues.
- Lisa checked in about the CEHPAC schedule. The Council meets every other month, but the schedule is not a set day of the month because many of the members have clinical schedules to work around.
- The statute requires CEHPAC and the CEJSC to work together.
- It was discussed that the next CEHPAC meeting might need to be moved up to December 8th instead of the 15th due to the holiday with possible lunch. The members agreed to this change.
- Possible topics to be discuss with CEHPAC: Rebecca suggested updates on environmental tracking data being done in Prince George's County. Dr. Sacoby Wilson's graduate classes are doing HIAs (Health Impact Assessment) for the county government. We may want to hear from them in December.
- Rebecca said that EJ should discuss with CEHPAC the Green Cleanup topic.

Dick Fairbanks asked about the current Lead news concerning kids 1 and 2 getting tested. Subha gave a brief update concerning the Press Conference held on Monday 26th and some background information on lead and its future in the State of Maryland.

Delegate Lam questioned the possible cost of 6 million dollars to pay for this testing. Subha said she could send him the cost analysis.

Local Government

- Rebecca reported there have been a few conference calls on this topic. Andy Fellows has offered to reach out to Les Knapp of MACo about engaging with the local governments.

Dick Fairbanks indicated that he has no new updates on the Westport development. He did say that the development could have an impact on the community. Kevin Plank, owner of Under Armor, has bought 43 acres of land in the area to build his new headquarters.

- Dick has connected with the city planner who works on this area of the city. He would like to have him visit with the Commission to discuss the City Master Plan. He and Lisa discussed having the planner come before or after the November meeting to talk to interested Commissioners.
- Dick read an article from the Sun paper concerning the land purchase by Mr. Plank and said he would like to see remediation completed.

Cumulative Impact Workgroup

- Lisa gave an update on the meeting that took place on Monday 26th.
- The Workgroup came to a working agreement about which air permits to use. The indicator conversation continues and MDE is working on maps to share with the group.
- There was also a discussion about moving forward on enhanced public participation. Lisa is interested in ideas from the Commission about what would be helpful to move this issue forward as they define meaningful public participation.
- It was mentioned that Honeywell Corporation engagement with the community is a great example and that it would be nice to talk to them about it.
- Subha said that HIA (health impact assessment) would be good to incorporate into permitting.
- Rebecca spoke about the success the community of Morrell Park had regarding rail in the area.
- Dick mentioned that the city might have benefited from having an intermodal facility within its borders, though he agreed the community made a good effort in advocating for itself.
- Subha said public engagement seems to lead to success.
- Rebecca said that it will be legislation this year coming from the advocacy community.

Annapolis Meeting

- Meeting planned for January 26th with a rain date for February 23rd
- Plan on inviting House and Senate for light food before session, then have a short meeting, possibly visiting the Senate & House floor sessions.
- The Commission could go around to targeted legislators to introduce themselves.
- Rebecca said it's a health equity reception going on same day of the meeting and EJ members should be invited.

Climate Change

- Lisa said this was on the list of ideas when the Commission discussed priorities, but was not voted as a top three item
- There has been a request from the MD Climate Change Commission for the CEJSC to collaborate. Lisa has suggested a one time meeting to discuss issues of mutual interest. Vernice Travis by phone mention a project she is working on to look at the intersection of Climate Change and EJ. It is being funded by the Town Creak Foundation and may inform some of the MCCC plans for 2016.

Other Business

- Rebecca announced there is an Equitable Development Seminar at UMD on Nov 12th at 3 pm. She sent Lisa information to share with the group in the weekly email.
- Rebecca also mentioned the LCV legislative kick off being held at the Aquarium that evening.

Meeting Adjourned