

HENDERSON COUNTY
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Environmental Advisory Committee
Thursday, June 5, 2014
3:00 pm

MEETING SUMMARY

EAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Allen
Kevin Wetzel
Robert Delwiche
Glen Englam
Francie Harrill
Pam Danz, Chair

EAC MEMBERS ABSENT:

Susan Mehiel
Marty Strauss
David Phillips

COUNTY STAFF PRESENT:

Rachel Hodge, Environmental Programs
Coordinator (new staff resource for EAC)
Marcus Jones, County Engineer
Megan Powell, Research & Budget Analyst
Autumn Radcliff, Senior Planner

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:05PM

1. **Approval of agenda** (no changes made; Wetzel motion, Englam 2nd, all in favor)
2. **Approval of minutes of prior meeting. Attached. Please read in digital form for approval. We are saving trees by not providing printed copies.** (Approved)
3. **Introduce Rachel Hodge, our new liaison to the County Commissioners and Secretary of the Environmental Advisory Committee. Rachel will tell the Committee a little about her background.**
 - a. Rachel Hodge introduction, items presented for consideration/review to EAC:
 - i. *"Sustainability Action Plan"* (*this document is a summary of previous Henderson County Engineering, Solid Waste, Environmental Programs in which energy/fuel/innovative cost-savings measures already approved by the BOC since 2009; note this document is a working, administrative summarization of actions already taken but can be enhanced with future programs/action items to support future sustainability measures taken by County staff to conserve resources and expenditures) → Rachel will email copy to EAC members
 - ii. *Solid Waste Ordinance* updates: recommended that the EAC review and update with guidance or recommendations from staff → Rachel will email copy to EAC members
 - iii. *Environmental Programs update*: shingle recycling program to start late summer 2014, mercury products recycling grant in the process for county residents, Household Hazardous Waste event #2 on June 19, 2014 (3rd Thursday May-Sept. 9am until noon at County Convenience Center)

4. Old Business

- a. **Set subjects for subsequent meetings. (Table this because of two additions to the agenda?)**
 - i. *September*: begin reviewing Solid Waste Ordinance
 - ii. *December*: continue review of Solid Waste Ordinance, begin review of Sustainability Action Plan and discuss energy conservation, etc.
 - iii. Continue discussion of climate change
 - iv. Bring in a speaker for a later 2014 meeting → need further suggestions/topics from Committee members
 - v. Allen motion to consider these items, Enggram 2nd; all yes vote on motion
- b. **Decide who will take written minutes.** Rachel will create a meeting summary after all EAC meetings and include notes taken by committee members. Recorded meetings posted online will serve as official minutes.

5. New business

- a. **Terry Wilson, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners has asked that we send her a list of anyone willing to serve as Chair of this Committee for the upcoming year so that the Board of Commissioners may take action on June 30th at 5:30 PM. According to our By Laws we should elect a Vice-Chair at our next meeting.**
 - i. Pam Danz volunteered to continue as Chairperson. Kevin Wetzel volunteered to serve as Vice Chair. Rachel will notify Terry Wilson of recommendations.
- b. **A Committee member has requested more frequent meetings. Is a By-laws change warranted?** The committee has discretion on adding meetings to their schedule as long as BOC clerk is aware of additions and can notify the public of the meeting at least 7 days prior to being held. (See EAC Bylaws, Sections V.b & X.) Staff suggested waiting to address this request after the 3 committee vacancies have been filled this year. Wetzel motion, Delwiche 2nd to table until September committee meeting, all in favor.
- c. **Kieran Roe, Executive Director of the Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy (CMLC), will speak on the topic of Conservancy and Commerce.**
 - i. Keieran Roe spoke about the “Balancing Nature & Commerce in Transylvania County” workshop that CMLC helped host in March 2014. He passed out copies of the workshop flyer and briefly explained the work of CMLC as a local land conservancy. Notes on presentation:
 1. CMLC has recently helped to create new protected state lands- Headwaters State Forest
 2. The March workshop partnered with local, regional, and state conservation and economic agencies on working together to grow the economy of Transylvania County from cultural and natural resources that already exist in the community
 - a. Attendees at the workshop drafted an action plan
 3. Transylvania County Natural Resources Conservation Council made up of Pisgah Forest District Ranger, Transylvania County Cooperative Extension, State Parks, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and others
 4. The group that hosted the “Balancing” workshop is planning to host a November conference on water resources

5. CMLC would be willing to try and help bring workshop concept to Henderson County if there are willing partners and funding
 - a. Kieran suggested clicking through items on website for workshop to learn more about specific workshop topics
6. Kieran suggested that a member from the Transylvania Council (mentioned above in #3) speak at an EAC meeting about the workshop, process, outcomes, plans for future

d. Question and answer period. Members thanked Mr. Delwiche for his service for the past two years on the Committee. 3 vacancies announced again.

5. Date / time of next meeting Thursday, September 4, 2014

6. Adjournment (Allen motion, Harrill 2nd; all in favor). Meeting adjourned at 4:12pm.