

Howard County Environmental Sustainability Board Meeting
Robinson Nature Center – Columbia, MD
June 13, 2019
7pm-9pm

Attendees

Joshua Feldmark	Office of Community Sustainability (OCS)
Ann Strozyk	Environmental Sustainability Board (ESB)
Christine Conn	ESB
Carolyn Parsa	Sierra Club/Safe Skies MD
Joel Hurewitz	Less Plastic Please
Larry Corsa	Resident
Beth Decker	MAEOE/Safe Skies MD
Kim Drake	CA Climate Change & Sustainability Committee
Christiana Rigby	Howard County Council
Sue Muller	Howard County Rec & Parks
Ian Moller-Knudsen	HCSC
Amber Butler	ESB
Georgia Eacker	ESB
Athena Verghis	ESB
Mark Southerland	PHG Howard County Conservancy
Aaron Shurtleff	Maryland Department of Agriculture

Minutes

7:08 PM – Ann Strozyk began the meeting and had everyone introduce themselves.

1.) **Spotted Lantern Fly – Maryland Department of Agriculture: Aaron Shurtleff**

Aaron Shurtleff gave a presentation about the Spotted Lantern Fly and its negative effects on the environment. They are native to Asia. In the United States, they were first found in Pennsylvania in 2017. They cause damage to various plants and trees by feeding on them.

[Spotted Lantern Fly](#)

2.) **Budget – County Council: Christiana Rigby**

Christiana Rigby discussed how the County Executive sets the budget and brings it to the council for review. She discussed the County changing street lights to LED, expansion of the Green Bin program and expansion of the 50+ Center. 2.2 million was put into the bikeway funding and 15.3 million was put into flood mitigation. [Budget FY20](#)

3.) **Director's Report – Office of Community Sustainability: Joshua Feldmark**

Howard County is in the process of creating a program to increase our meadows and pollinator gardens. Four meadows have been put in recently and two more are going to be created. The County Executive is accelerating the General Plan and we will be working to integrate the Green Infrastructure Network Plan into it.

4.) Climate Action work – Columbia Association Climate Change & Sustainability Committee: Kim Drake

Kim Drake discussed the goals of the Columbia Association Climate Change & Sustainability Committee. She also discussed planned workshops and how they developed their media plan. They are creating a collaboration of environmental groups and have a subcommittee that is focusing on transportation. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month. [Website](#)

5.) Committee Reports

Green Apple Award – No updates. Thanked OCS for putting in their newsletter.

Plastics – They Plastics Committee has given presentations at four schools. They are going to have plastics student work group sessions in the fall.

Bird Safe – The committee is looking into more local legislation. They want to get the school system involved. They want to provide education for students and teachers. They are going to promote how the designs are cost neutral.

6.) Committee sign ups and discussion of next year's plan

A list was put out for the Board members to sign-up for committees. They discussed the meeting frequency and format of the board meetings. They are going to vote on the format and meeting frequency at the next meeting.

9:04 PM – The meeting was adjourned.