

Meeting Minutes

Howard County Environmental Sustainability Board

Robinson Nature Center – Columbia, MD

7-9 PM

October 13, 2016

Name	Affiliation
Elissa Reineck	OCS
Matthew Hoover	OCS
William (Bill) Mahoney	OCS
Bert Nixon	Howard County Health Department
Georgia Eacker	ESB
Betsy Singer	ESB
Jim Caldwell	OCS
Mark Southerland	ESB
Ned Tillman	ESB
Paul Lin	ESB Student Representative
Ed Wilson	ESB
Chein-Chi-Chang	ESB
Olivia Farrow	ESB

Minutes

7:00 pm

Board Chair Ned Tillman welcomed group and asked for a brief introduction of each person in attendance. Each person gave their name and advised what their affiliation was.

7:10 pm

Bert Nixon of the Howard County Health Department's Environmental Health Division gave a background of his department. It is a State agency that works within the County. The Department is divided into Well and Septic, Food Protection, and Community Hygiene sections.

7:25 pm

The ESB's draft report to the County Council, per CR 31-2016 and regarding the state of indoor air quality in schools, was discussed by the Board and Mr. Nixon. No changes were adopted to the report.

Some board members heard, but could not verify, that some schools are starting to do six month inspections which parents may choose to participate in and a complaint process is being generated so people can report possible issues. With these processes in place it will help identify issues and will help provide preventive maintenance. Given that there are no national standards for acceptable mold counts

and that people don't react consistently to mold species or concentrations, taking proactive measures to control moisture and monitoring airflow are the best methods of controlling mold. The reports given to the Board indicate that these efforts have already begun in some schools.

8:37 pm

The Board discussed succession because two members have to be replaced when their terms are over in February. A nomination was made for Mark as the new chair, and a unanimous vote confirmed his appointment. A nomination was made for Olivia to be the new Vice Chair, and a unanimous vote was taken, confirming Olivia as the new Vice Chair. The board ensured that other necessary board positions and requirements are filled.

8:50 pm

News: Mark Southerland will present the results of the Commercial Stormwater Solutions Task Force to the County Council on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Energy Task Force will be providing recommendations to the County Council and Executive in the next month or two.

8:55 pm

Director report was presented by Jim Caldwell. Roving Radish has an average of 300 kits a week which has doubled from last year's average.

The Patrick Farm Project is moving along and major agreement signing will take place in early November.

Jim is working with MDE to create septic maintenance program for credit towards our MS4 permit.

9:00 pm

A suggestion was made to bring in a speaker about the future of sustainability. It was also recommended to bring in a representative from Baltimore County's Office of Sustainability for one of the ESB meetings.

9:10 pm

Meeting adjourned.