

Held on-line and by phone

Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/drd-prhu-trc](https://meet.google.com/drd-prhu-trc)

Phone Number: (US) [+1 414-909-6290](tel:+14149096290)

PIN: 237 942 776#

September 10, 2020

7pm-9pm

### Attendees

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Christine Conn     | Environmental Sustainability Board (ESB)         |
| Ann Strozyk        | ESB  |
| Olivia Farrow      | ESB  |
| John Dove          | ESB  |
| Chris Tsien        | ESB  |
| Nancy McAllister   | ESB  |
| Brooke Abercrombie | ESB  |
| Larry Liebesman    | ESB  |
| Willie Flowers     | NAACP – Howard County                            |
| Janssen Evelyn     | Howard County Asst. Chief Administrative Officer |
| Georgia Eacker     | Resident   |
| Marisa Olszewski   | Rec & Parks Robinson Nature Center               |
| Natasha Shangold   | Resident   |
| TiQuoria Jackson   | NAACP Co-chair Environmental & Climate Justice   |
| Josh Feldmark      | OCS  |
| Matthew Hoover     | OCS  |
| Kim Drake          | CA Climate Change Committee                      |

### Minutes

7:02 PM – Christine Conn began the meeting and introduced Willie Flowers, Janssen Evelyn and TiQuoria Jackson.

#### 1.) **NAACP Garden Food Access Initiative/Diversity and Inclusion in Howard County Environmental Work.**

Mr. Evelyn, Mr. Flowers and Ms. Jackson gave a presentation of the Goals for the Garden Food Access Initiative. They explained how they received a grant to start a community garden and they were able to find an area in Freetown to do the project. They call it the George Washington Carver Growing Food Together CSA and the model is set up so anybody can participate. They want to teach people the value of growing their own chemical free food. The community garden started with a few people and now has about 20 to 30 on one plot. They chose to grow together in a true community gardening format instead of individual plots, so that everybody can work together, learn together and everybody can enjoy the food. They also share the food with the local community. Their goal is to give as many people regardless of race, gardening skill, and income the opportunity to participate and learn. ([NCAAP HOCO Instagram link](#))

**2.) Meeting Minutes: June 11, 2020 – Vote**

Mr. Liebesman motioned to approve, and it was seconded by Ms. McAllister to approve the June 11, 2020 ESB minutes. All members in attendance approved the minutes.

**3.) Planning Advisory Committee and ESB recommendation – Chris Tsien**

Mr. Tsien was invited to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee that he thinks will have input on the Howard County General Plan. He wanted to notify the Board, so he could get input from the members on what they think the plan should emphasize. He will comeback after the first Planning Advisory Committee meeting with more information on what the goal of the committee is.

**4.) Director’s Report – Office of Community Sustainability: Josh Feldmark**

Howard County, through the Office of Community Sustainability and the Department of Recreation and Parks, received a 2020 Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for \$999,023.18. The grant will help triple the number of trees in Howard County, Baltimore County and Baltimore City.

Howard County will start enforcement of the Polystyrene Food Service Products ban on October 1<sup>st</sup>. ([Link to HoCo page](#))

The plastic bag fee will begin on October 1. There are specific things the funds received from the fee can be spent on, such as education on waste reduction and grants to do environmental work. ([Link HoCo fee page](#))

Mr. Feldmark worked with DTCS to set up a Webex meeting platform for future ESB meetings.

**5.) Committee Reports/Updates/Announcements**

The Legislative Breakfast Committee – They are discussing the idea of doing the breakfast virtually.

Award Committee – They are trying to figure out how to do the Green Apple Award ([Link](#)) this year.

Resilience Sub Committee – They have had a couple meetings and discussed what do they mean by resiliency. The resiliency topics they discussed were GIN, energy resiliency, disaster responses, stormwater and food resiliency. They are still in a formative where are we going phase and doing a lot of research.

The Climate Change Commission has prepared a number of white papers on resiliency and environmental justice. Environmental justice is going to be a priority for the Climate Change Commission.

It was advised that the DEIJ for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed was signed. ([DEIJ guide](#))

Meeting adjourned 8:40 PM.