

**FAIRFAX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**DATE:** Wednesday, December 12, 2012  
**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Herrity Building, Rooms 106 and 107, 12055 Government Center  
Parkway, Fairfax, VA

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Stella Koch (Chairman, At-Large)              | Frank Crandall (Dranesville)   |
| Larry Zaragoza (Vice Chairman, Mt.<br>Vernon) | George Lamb (At Large)         |
| Jeff Allcroft (Springfield)                   | Talia Schmitt (Student Member) |
|   | Rich Weisman (Sully)           |

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

|                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Linda Burchfiel (At-Large) | Robert McLaren (At-Large) |
| Frank Divita (Braddock)    | Glen White (Mason)        |
| Johna Gagnon (Lee)         |                           |

**STAFF**

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Kambiz Agazi | Noel Kaplan |
|--------------|-------------|

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT FOR THE  
JOINT EQAC/FCPA BOARD MEETING**

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Edward Batten     | Ken Quincy       |
| William Bouie     | Kala Quintana    |
| Kevin Fay         | Marie Reinsdorf  |
| Linwood Gorham    | Michael Thompson |
| Janyce Hedetniemi | Frank Vajda      |

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT FOR THE  
JOINT EQAC/FCPA BOARD MEETING**

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Debbie Babcock-Daley | Barbara Nugent   |
| Sara Baldwin         | Judy Pedersen    |
| David Bowden         | Justin Roberson  |
| Todd Brown           | Kristin Sinclair |
| John Dargle          | Charles Smith    |
| Barbara Gorski       | Sandy Stallman   |
| Cindy Messinger      | Cindy Walsh      |

**OTHER GUESTS PRESENT FOR THE EQAC BUSINESS MEETING**

Paul Shirey

The meeting convened at 6:00 PM.

### **Joint meeting with the Fairfax County Park Authority Board**

Matters discussed:

#### Urban Parks Framework and Park Authority Needs Assessment

- Presentation from Sandy Stallman, Manager, Park Planning Branch, Planning and Development Division, FCPA
- Park Authority Urban Parks Framework—a transition to an urban park system for urban areas (Tysons, Commercial Revitalization Areas and Transit Station Areas)
- Preparation for addition of this framework to the Policy Plan volume of the Comprehensive Plan
- General distinctions of the framework
- Types of urban parks
- Urban parkland service standards
- Recommendations regarding stream valley improvements
- Tysons rezoning applications
- Development of a Tysons-wide park system master plan
- The forthcoming needs assessment (conducted every 10 years), with the addition of a “Natural Capital” concept recognizing costs of natural resource management activities.
- Active vs. passive recreation in the Urban Parks Framework
- Potential for rooftop athletic fields
- Approval of bond referenda for parks

#### Natural Capital and the Ellanor C. Lawrence Park Forest Management Pilot Project

- Presentation from Charles Smith, Manager, Natural Resource Management and Protection Branch, Resource Management Division, FCPA
- The natural capital concept, recognizing the values of ecosystem services and investments needed to retain these services; turning away from the “benign neglect” approach
- Incorporation of this concept into Park Authority resource allocation decisions, including the development of cost bases for natural resource management
- Piloting of the natural capital concept through the Ellanor C. Lawrence Park Pilot Project—holistic management on a landscape scale, including: site inventory (including comprehensive mapping of natural communities and a forest characterization study); goal development for resource management; education of the public as well as peers and partners; and development of a transportable management model
- Draft Natural Capital Stewardship Model leading to adaptive management for biodiversity (measurement of results and adaptation based on these results, focusing on diversity of species and types of communities)
- Streams within Ellanor C. Lawrence Park
- Status of the pilot project
- Relationship to separate stormwater management efforts
- Partnership with the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services’ stormwater program

#### Natural Resource Management Plan Revision

- Presentation from Charles Smith, Manager, Natural Resource Management and Protection Branch, Resource Management Division, FCPA
- Progress on the 2004 plan and need for revision
- Change in focus—to be more strategic in approach (less attention to programmatic details)
- To be more concise—20 to 30 recommended actions anticipated
- Organization by management themes
- Implementation through work plans and strategic plans
- Process, status and schedule of the planning effort
- List of stakeholders
- Impacts of budget cutbacks to the FCPA natural resource management program
- Bond funding for natural resource management, as well as the use of proffered funds (e.g., to support part of the Ellanor C. Lawrence Park pilot project)
- Increased staffing for natural resource management
- Roles of volunteers in supporting natural resource management efforts

#### Motions made:

- None.

#### Follow-up actions:

- FCPA staff is available to brief EQAC on the Natural Resource Management Plan revision at appropriate times. May was identified as a possibility (when a draft revised plan will be sent to stakeholders).
- EQAC will review draft documents as they become available.

#### **Dinner with the Fairfax County Park Authority Board**

At 7:00 PM. the Fairfax County Park Authority treated EQAC to dinner, which was held in room 941 of the Herry Building (Park Authority Board Room). At 7:30 PM, the Park Authority Board remained in room 941 and EQAC returned to rooms 106 and 107 for its business meeting.

#### **Update on the development of a stormwater management ordinance for Fairfax County**

#### Matters discussed:

- Presentation from Paul Shirey, Director, Code Development and Compliance, Land Development Services, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services
- State Regulations—schedule requirements and other implications to Fairfax County
- County process for developing a stormwater ordinance
- Major policy issues and the process for their review by stakeholders
  - Best Management Practices in residential areas/use and location of various BMPs, (with particular EQAC interest in the extent to which homeowners can/should be expected to maintain facilities on their properties)

- BMP inspections and maintenance options (with similar EQAC interest, expanding to cover education/outreach and disclosure)
- Adequate outfall and detention requirements
- Impacts on infill development
- Impacts on the pro rata share program
- Nutrient credit offset provisions
- Single family lot exemptions
- Various types of BMPs that can be applied in support of the forthcoming requirements, both in regard to individual residential lots and broader applications (e.g., subdivision design; nonresidential development)
- Wetlands restoration as an unrelated but important water quality strategy
- Process for working towards Planning Commission consideration of a draft proposal.
- A wrap-up meeting with stakeholders in late January [since scheduled for January 28, 7:00 PM, Board of Supervisors Auditorium]

Motions made:

- None.

Follow-up actions:

- EQAC will review draft documents as they become available. February was identified as a possible meeting for further discussion.

### **Consideration of a letter from the Chairman regarding stormwater management for School Projects**

Matters discussed:

- The November briefing from Ron Tuttle (DPWES-Stormwater) and Steve Nicholson (Fairfax County Public Schools)
- Planning Commission consideration of three school sites (Garfield, Terraset and Sunrise Valley Elementary Schools), all of which have generated interest regarding stormwater management
- Chairman Koch's view that discussions are proceeding appropriately and that there is nothing EQAC needs to do at this time

Motions made:

- None

Follow-up actions:

- EQAC will continue to track this issue, but it is not anticipated that any other follow-up actions will be needed.
- EQAC will consider reporting on this issue in the 2013 Annual Report on the Environment.

**Preparation of an EQAC response to the County Executive's request for input/guidance from Boards/Authorities/Commissions on development of the FY 2014 budget**

Matters discussed:

- A request from the County Executive to members of BACs regarding the FY 2014 budget
- Ability for individual members to respond and for a collective EQAC response
- Whether the Annual Report on the Environment should provide an overall sense of/vision for the environment in Fairfax County and the relationship of this issue to the Board's Environmental Vision.

Motions made:

- None

Follow-up actions:

- Larry Zaragoza will draft comments for consideration by EQAC at its January 7 meeting.
- Noel Kaplan will inform the County Executive that EQAC will consider his request on January 7.
- Noel will provide to all EQAC members a link to the Environmental Agenda.
- EQAC will consider adding guidance in its next Annual Report regarding the Environmental Agenda and/or a related vision for the environment.

**Presentation of the 2012 Annual Report on the Environment: Follow-up**

Matters discussed:

- Reactions from members of the Board of Supervisors to EQAC's Annual Report, as well as specific issues relating to the report.

Motions made:

- None

Follow-up actions:

- EQAC will, at the April meeting, discuss questions from Board members regarding the concept of the energy coordinator position as it relates to the current interagency approach to energy issues (the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Coordinating Committee).

**Preparation for the January 7, 2013 public hearing**

Matters discussed:

- Publicity efforts for the upcoming public hearing
- Logistics for the public hearing and remote testimony site

Motions made:

- None

Follow-up actions:

- Noel will ask Elaine Tholen, Fairfax County Public Schools, for assistance in publicizing the hearing to high school environmental groups.
- EQAC members will arrive early such that the hearing can start promptly at 7:30 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes of the August 8, 2012, October 10, 2012 and November 15, 2012 EQAC Meetings**

Matters discussed:

- Approval of the draft minutes of the three aforementioned meetings.

Motions made:

- Frank Crandall moved approval of the three sets of minutes as drafted. George Lamb seconded the motion.

Record of the vote:

- Approval by unanimous vote, with no abstentions

Follow-up actions:

- Per standard practice, the approved minutes will be posted to the EQAC website with an e-mail notification to Board member offices.

**Chairman's Items**

Matters discussed:

- Establishment of a committee to identify nominees for Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2013.
- Conversation between Stella Koch and Supervisor Hudgins regarding development patterns/development designs near transit facilities and whether there is a need for better integration/connectivity; request from Supervisor Hudgins for EQAC's views on this.

Motions made:

- None

Follow-up actions:

- George Lamb agreed to serve on the nominating committee. There was a consensus in support. There was also a consensus in support of having Bob McLaren serve on the committee.

- EQAC will discuss Supervisor Hudgins' request at the March meeting. George Lamb will draft a list of specific questions/issues for Noel Kaplan to use in identifying who to invite to that meeting.

### **Council Member Items**

Matters discussed:

- Upcoming Green Breakfast meeting on January 12
- Invasive species management, particularly on park land.

Motions made:

- None

Follow-up actions:

- None

### **Staff Items**

Matters discussed:

- Adopted Board of Supervisors legislative program for the 2013 General Assembly session
- Planning Commission Environment Committee meetings on January 10 and February 7—Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Board of Supervisors Development Process Committee meeting on January 15—continuation of discussion of the preparation of a stormwater ordinance
- Possible extension of the Energy Action Fairfax effort; review of lessons learned and development of a scope of work for a possible continuation; interest in expanding the focus to include both residential and business outreach, and interest from the Chamber of Commerce; EQAC involvement

Motions made:

- None

Follow-up actions:

- None

**Adjournment** – the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.