

Approved by EQAC, October 10, 2012

**FAIRFAX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

DATE: Wednesday, September 12, 2012
TIME: 7:15 P.M.
PLACE: 106 Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway,
Fairfax, VA

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stella Koch (Chairman, At-Large)	Johna Gagnon (Lee)
Larry Zaragoza (Vice Chairman, Mt. Vernon)	Robert McLaren (At-Large)
Linda Burchfiel (At-Large)	Talia Schmitt (Student Member)
Frank Crandall (Dranesville)	Rich Weisman (Sully)
Frank Divita (Braddock)	Glen White (Mason)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jeff Allcroft (Springfield)
George Lamb (At Large)

STAFF

Kambiz Agazi	Noel Kaplan
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GUESTS

Michelle Brickner	Chet McLaren
John Friedman	Jean Packard
Harry Glasgow	Eleanor Quigley
Diane Hoffman	Willie Woode

Briefing on the development of a Stormwater Management Ordinance for Fairfax County - Michelle Brickner, Director, Land Development Services, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, provided an overview of the process for development and adoption of a Fairfax County Stormwater Management Ordinance, based on a presentation she gave to a group of public stakeholders in July. Her schedule calls for further working sessions in September and October, with a goal of delivering a preliminary package to the state by February 2013, and having the Stormwater Management Ordinance in place by July 2014. EQAC suggested providing input to her by later this year—it was agreed that EQAC would work on this at its December meeting.

The presentation reviewed the overall purpose of her briefing, and the stakeholder engagement process. She noted that she is planning for two workshops in September and October, and identified a variety of interested organizations.

The state regulations became effective on September 13, 2011, and provide a framework for the implementation and enforcement of the Virginia Stormwater Management Act. They delineate the procedures and requirements to be followed in connection with VSMP stormwater construction permits. These relate to a variety of county ordinances and standards, and have key provisions for both water quality and quantity. She provided the following URL for further information: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/stormwaterordinance.htm>.

Issues identified during the discussion included the following:

- Criteria applied in the runoff reduction method to determine the capacity of various best management practices to reduce stormwater runoff volumes—this is specified by the state.
- Relationship between the state’s phosphorus loading requirement and runoff volume reduction.
- Staff’s capacity to administer the new requirements.
- Topics for discussion at the small group stakeholder meetings.
- Public participation at the small group stakeholder meetings.
- Consideration of the policy recommendations from the regional pond study and watershed management plans.
- Relationship of this effort to a statewide study examining the functions of the Department of Environmental Quality and Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Consideration of a resolution regarding stormwater management for school projects – Noel Kaplan noted that this topic was carried over from a previous EQAC meeting, and concerns efforts at two schools in the Reston area. For one school (Terraset), the Planning Commission may have further discussions in November and the Board in December. EQAC decided to defer further discussions until a future EQAC meeting.

Appointment of an EQAC representative to the Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee – Glen Mason volunteered to serve as the EQAC representative to the LEPC. He noted that he will be unlikely to attend every meeting and would seek fellow EQAC members to attend those meetings when he is unable to attend.

2012 Annual Report on the Environment: Review of chapter drafts and draft comments and recommendations – the following draft chapters were discussed at the meeting. Overall, Noel requested that all remaining chapters be provided to him by October 2nd, with a goal of delivering the ARE to the Board of Supervisors in time for a presentation on November 20th.

Climate Change and Energy (Larry Zaragoza) – Moved by Larry Zaragoza; Seconded by Rich Weisman. Discussion: In response to a question about the Environmental Improvement Project selection process, Kambiz Agazi noted that the preliminary list of projects scoring well on this

year's evaluations included good mix of projects, relative to an issue as to whether EQAC should suggest, in its first recommendation in this chapter, that energy and education projects be stressed in some way. For next year, Kambiz committed to providing a debriefing about the EIP review relative to this recommendation (tentatively to be done in March). Approved unanimously.

Air Quality (Rich Weisman) – Approved at last month's EQAC meeting. Several technical corrections to be made.

Ecological Resources (Bob McLaren) – The draft recommendation was moved by Bob McLaren and seconded by Larry Zaragoza. Discussion: There will be a new Natural Resource Management Plan provided in 2013 and EQAC will request a briefing on it. Approved – all affirmative with one dissention (Rich Weisman, who expressed concerns about tradeoffs within the FCPA activities). Bob McLaren will provide his draft chapter to Noel—the discussion leading to the recommendation will change.

Noise (Linda Burchfiel) – Moved by Linda Burchfiel; Seconded by Larry Zaragoza. Discussion: The second recommendation (addressing the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's noise monitoring system) will be changed to a comment. Also, comment #4 (relating to disclosure of airport noise impacts for new residential construction) was discussed and Noel Kaplan provided background information. For comment #1 (regarding accessibility of noise monitoring data on the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's website), Linda will remove the first sentence and re-phrase in terms of the public's right to access noise data. Approved unanimously.

Visual Pollution (Rich Weisman) – Moved by Rich Weisman; Seconded by Larry Zaragoza. Discussion: Rich will revise the last sentence in the recommendation to request that results be provided within a 6 month timeframe or for the provision of an alternative timeframe for providing results. Approved unanimously.

Report Cover (Talia Schmitt) – completed

FCPS Spotlight (Rich Weisman) – input provided by county staff; substantially complete

Approval of the minutes of the June 13, 2012 EQAC meeting – Moved by Johna Gagnon; Seconded by Glen Mason. Approved unanimously. Abstentions: Stella Koch, Bob McLaren, Glen White.

Approval of the minutes of the July 11, 2012 EQAC meeting – deferred

Approval of the minutes of the August 8, 2012 EQAC meeting – deferred

Chairman's items – Noted that Diane Hoffman is leaving the NVSWCB; a replacement has been identified.

Council member items – Larry Zaragoza noted a National Audubon education event called “Cocktails and Crickets” and cited this program as an outstanding and innovative approach to recruiting participants for park and wildlife events.

Staff items – Noel noted an interest expressed by individual EQAC members for a broader discussion about recycling (expanded from what was described in the Environmental Excellence Award nomination for Service Source); he indicated that he had contacted Solid Waste Management staff for guidance on an appropriate time frame for a presentation. He noted that he had confirmed a deer management briefing to EQAC on November 14th and the annual public hearing on January 7, 2013. Noel was asked to note, in publicity materials for the public hearing, the availability of the Annual Report on the Environment by early December. Stella Koch agreed to coordinate with Bill Bouie on the scheduling of a joint meeting with the Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

Noel noted two upcoming meetings of the Planning Commission’s Environment Committee and the Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee meeting on October 2.

Noel noted that EQAC’s legislative initiatives for the 2013 General Assembly would be addressed at the September 18th meeting of the Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee. He indicated that staff would be recommending carrying forward the Board’s previous position on disposable bags and that EQAC’s recommendations regarding the uranium mining moratorium and third party power purchasing would be on the agenda for discussion.

Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.