COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF FAIRFAX
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING
DATE: January 9, 2019
TIME: 7:30 P.M. – 10:28 P.M.
LOCATION: Conference Rooms 4 and 5
Fairfax County Government Center

EQAC Member Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Present/Absent*</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stella Koch (Chairman, At-Large)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Larry Zaragoza (Vice Chairman, Mount Vernon)</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>Johna Gagnon (Lee)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Renee Grebe (At-Large)</td>
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<td>Richard Healy (Mason)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Krystyna Hesser (Student Member)</td>
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<td>Debra Jacobson (Dranesville)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>George Lamb (At-Large)</td>
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<td>Ken Lanfear (Hunter Mill)</td>
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<td>Paul Pitera (Braddock)</td>
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<td>Alex Robbins (Providence)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Rich Weisman (Sully)</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>Clyde Wilber (Springfield)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Mike Zatz (At-Large)</td>
<td>P</td>
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*Note: P indicates present; and A indicates absent

Staff Attendance
Kambiz Agazi, Joe Gorney, Noel Kaplan

Public Hearing Speakers
Rev. Dr. Jean Wright Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
Dr. Eric Goplerud Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
Joyce Wilkenson Speaking as an individual
Julie Kimmel 350 Fairfax
Helene Shore 350 Fairfax
Eliza Cava Audubon Naturalist Society
Ann Bennett Sierra Club: Great Falls Group
Don Coram Speaking as an individual
Joshua Goodman Citizens Climate Lobby: Fairfax County Chapter
Malin Moench Citizens Climate Lobby: Fairfax County Chapter
Donna Murphy Speaking as an individual
Bill Haeker Speaking as an individual
Tom Blackburn Audubon Society of Northern Virginia
Ronald M. Orr Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston
Margaret Fisher Speaking as an individual (via You-Tube video)
Barbara Bacon Speaking as an individual (written testimony only)
Jen Cole Clean Fairfax (written testimony only)
Maria Vorel Speaking as an individual (written testimony only)

Approved by EQAC, February 13, 2019
Others Present at the Public Hearing

Laura Beaty   Virginia Native Plant Society
Mary Jane Reyes  Individual
Elaine Tholen   NVSWCD
Peter Mecca   Fairfax County resident
Dana Neese Paxton  Newington Forest Community Association
Al Kenneke    St. John Neumann Roman Catholic Church, 350 Fairfax
Sandee Byrne  350 Fairfax
Ed Byrne     350 Fairfax
Ann More     350 Fairfax
Doug Britt   Reston Association community member
Meredith Haines     Resident
Raewyn Haines  Individual
Mark Murphy   Fairfax County resident

Agenda Items, Discussion, Decisions and Votes

Chairman Koch convened the meeting at approximately 7:30 P.M. She welcomed all those in attendance and began by asking EQAC members and staff to identify themselves.

1. Election of Officers for 2019:

Matters Discussed:
- Election of EQAC officers for 2019: report from Council Member Grebe, representing the nominating committee.

Motion/Record of the Vote/Decision:
- Council Member Grebe, as a member of the nominating committee, recommended that Stella Koch serve as Chairman and Larry Zaragoza serve as Vice-Chairman for 2019.
- There were no other nominations.
- The motion was approved by acclimation, by a unanimous vote of the members present.

2. Annual Public Hearing:

Matters Discussed:
- The annual EQAC public hearing was held. Mr. Gorney reviewed logistical considerations and requested that everyone present sign the attendance sheet. Chairman Koch thanked all the attendees for their participation.
- The public hearing featured oral testimony from 14 speakers, one video presentation, and three sets of written comments. All but two of the speakers provided copies of their
presentations and/or notes at or subsequent to the hearing. All presentations and notes are included as attachments. The speakers, and their affiliations, are listed above.

- Mr. Kaplan reminded the Council members that written comments had been received from both Barbara Bacon and Jen Cole.

3. **EQAC consideration of correspondence to the Board of Supervisors regarding recycling and environmentally-preferable purchasing:**

   **Motion/Record of the Vote/Decision:**
   - Given that Council Member Wilbur was unavailable for the discussion, this item was deferred to the next regular meeting of EQAC on February 13th.

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

   **Motion/Record of the Vote/Decision:**
   - There were no minutes for approval.

5. **Chairman’s Items:**

   - None.

6. **Council Member Items:**

   - Council Member Healy reported that Robert Vickers did not seek another term as Chairman of the Tree Commission and that Catherine Ledec was the new Chairman. He also stated that Keith Cline, the current director of the county Urban Forest Management Division, was retiring at the end of January and that Brian Keightley, previously employed by Arlington County, would be the new director.
   - Council Member Jacobson inquired about having an agenda item regarding resiliency. Mr. Kaplan noted that the February meeting would have an item regarding regional efforts on resiliency with speakers from both the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission.
   - Council Member Grebe reported that she and Vice-Chairman Zaragoza would represent EQAC at the February 2nd Mount Vernon Town Hall Meeting.
   - Council Member Gagnon reported that the next “Green Breakfast,” coordinated by the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, would be held on Saturday, January 12th, with the topic “How to Avoid Being Bad When You’re Trying to be Good.” The speaker will be Brandy Mueller of Land Development Services.
   - Vice-Chairman Zaragoza reported that he anticipated some discussion about resiliency planning and sea level rise at the Mount Vernon Town Hall Meeting.
• Chairman Koch asked Dr. Agazi whether the county is committed to the use of 3,000K lighting in neighborhoods. [Staff note: “K” represents the Kelvin color temperature of a light. The higher the number, the more white the light]. Dr. Agazi stated that the county is committed to 3,000K lights but might go to 4,000K in certain situations. Chairman Koch also discussed the drafting of a letter from EQAC to the BOS thanking them for committing to 3,000K lights in neighborhoods. Vice-Chairman Zaragoza volunteered to draft a letter for the council’s review.

7. Staff Items:

• Mr. Gorney:
  o Mr. Gorney reported that the BOS Environment Committee would next meet on Tuesday, February 12th.
  o He also noted that the October EQAC meeting conflicts with Yom Kippur. Mr. Kaplan stated that October was a critical month for the review of the Annual Report on the Environment. The Council chose to reschedule the October meeting to Thursday, October 10th.
  o Mr. Gorney noted that a sign-up list was circulated for Council minute-takers for 2019. Each member is expected to take minutes once per year.
  o Mr. Gorney received some comments from a citizen, Barbara Bacon, regarding the location of public hearing. She noted that the location was too far to drive to testify. Mr. Kaplan noted that it was challenging to find a good location, although the possibility of alternate locations or rotating locations was discussed in the past. Other possibilities include the use of district offices. Previously, testimony was accommodated at the South County offices for a number of years, but the location was not justified by the turnout. Council members noted that keeping the hearing in same location each year offers some predictability for the public and may help keep turnout high. Holding more than one public hearing per year might also limit the items that could be addressed in business meetings.
  o The March meeting will include a presentation by the county Office of Public Private Partnerships regarding the tracking of volunteer time. The tracking initiative would be a pilot project and would generally recognize the invaluable contributions made by volunteer Board-Appointed-Committees (BACs).
  o The February meeting will include a review of the student application materials.

• Mr. Kaplan:
  o Mr. Kaplan reported that the Planning Commission Environment Committee would meet on Thursday, January 24th, in the BOS Conference room, 7:30 p.m., and continue their discussion of a Comprehensive Plan amendment regarding energy. The amendment would add some emphasis to the subject of energy use in the context of Green Building. Other Policy Plan amendments would be introduced, including natural landscaping at county facilities. Chairman Koch asked whether interpretive signage would be addressed in the amendment, as a means to enhance the visibility of these projects. Dr. Agazi suggested that signage at highly-visible locations, such as libraries, would help. Another plan amendment would incorporate state guidance
regarding coastal zone management into local policies, with a focus on living shorelines approaches; including a reference to a new state information portal and a definition of living shorelines. Staff may also need to speak with the county Wetlands Board, as they are the primary user of this guidance in the permitting process. The following Planning Commission Environment Committee meeting would be on Thursday, Feb 21st. The state Department of Environmental Quality will be present to brief the Planning Commission on the state’s Salt Management Strategy. Chairman Koch recommended that, although EQAC has already received a briefing on this item, that staff should coordinate with DPWES to determine whether there has been enough progress made on this item that EQAC should schedule another briefing.

- Mr. Kaplan noted that Arlington Independent Media requested that an EQAC member participate in a panel discussion on Monday, Apr 22nd, Earth Day, regarding the implementation of environmental action plans and sustainability initiatives. It was decided that the requesting reporter should contact Chairman Koch directly to coordinate.

- Dr. Agazi:
  - Dr. Agazi reported that, for the BOS Environment Committee meeting on February 12th, he would present an item regarding a draft Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Green Building financing ordinance and finance agreement. He noted that the development of these documents included a robust stakeholder process. He also mentioned the street light replacement program, in which $4.5 million of carry-over moneys would be used. 70% of projects were complete with the remainder to be completed by June. A solar Request for Proposals and timelines would also be discussed at the committee meeting and Joe Mondoro would present information regarding an organizational restructuring regarding energy and sustainability. Finally, the eradication of running bamboo would be discussed. Dr. Agazi noted the limited time available to discuss all these items (1.5 hours).
  - Dr. Agazi noted that the state legislative session has started and that he is now reviewing proposed bills. Today he received 15 to review. The proposals included a couple of excellent bag bills. These were easy to support, as they are consistent with EQAC recommendations. Money collected from these proposed laws would stay local. However, another bill regarding the installation of solar equipment would raise impediments to their use. The state is also looking to reduce its recycling targets.
  - Chris McGough, green purchasing coordinator, has recently been rehired by the County. He most recently worked for the City of Falls Church. He is looking to start a pilot food composting operation at the county Government Center. A vendor would collect the compost, which might be composted in Prince William County. Although we do not currently have much food composting capacity in the region, the pilot project would provide experience in these operations.

8. Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm.