COUNTY OF FAIRFAX
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (EQAC)
MINUTES
DATE: September 12, 2018
TIME: 5:00 PM – 9:55 PM
LOCATION: Conference Rooms 2 and 3, Fairfax County Government Center,
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA

EQAC Member Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Present Absent*</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<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>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Healy (Mason)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Krystyna Hesser (Student Member)</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>Debra Jacobson (Dranesville)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>George Lamb (At-Large)</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ken Lanfear (Hunter Mill)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Paul Pitera (Braddock)</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>Alex Robbins (Providence)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Mark Thomas (At-Large)</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>Rich Weisman (Sully)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Clyde Wilber (Springfield)</td>
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*Note: P indicates present, and A indicates absent

Staff Attendance

Kambiz Agazi
Joe Gorney
Noel Kaplan
Joe Mondoro

Visitor Attendance

Randy Bartlett
Sheila Dunheimer
Marguerite Guarino
Zach Krohmal
Tiya Raju
Jean Wright
Hans Christensen
Katherine Edwards
Susan Hafeli
Davood Majidian
Juan Reyes
Beverly Dickinson
Eric Goplerud
John Kellas
Carey Needham
Fred Selden

Joint Meeting with Environmental Coordinating Committee

1. Welcome and Introduction
Chairman Koch welcomed Fairfax County Chief Financial Officer Joe Mondoro,
Environmental Coordinator Dr. Kambiz Agazi and several staff members from the
Environmental Coordinating Committee.

2. Conversation with Chief Financial Officer Joe Mondoro
Mr. Mondoro briefed the Council about organizational structure related to energy, climate
and other environmental issues. Mr. Mondoro indicated that County Executive Bryan Hill
has initiated a review of these functions and indicated some small changes or additions may be considered before the end of 2018.

Mr. Mondoro also provided an update on the Strategic Planning initiative announced by County Executive Hill. A contractor is expected to be retained in September 2018 and work will begin to frame a timeline, process and stakeholders. Mr. Mondoro suggested possible completion of a strategic plan template in January 2020, for the incoming Board of Supervisors to consider.

Mr. Mondoro also advised the Council that Supervisor Gross requested consideration for $4.5 million in funding for the Operational Energy Strategy through the FY 2018 Carryover Review.

Council discussion focused on opportunities for providing input on organizational structure, the need to incorporate measures with the Strategic Plan and the relationship between the Environmental Vision and the Strategic Plan. Mr. Mondoro assured the Council that Dr. Agazi was involved in the effort and would be able to advise the Council of how the process is taking shape. He also advised that, if EQAC were to develop its recommendations on organizational structure prior to the holidays, those recommendations would be timely as they would relate to possible changes being considered by the County Executive.

3. Discussion of the development and presentation of recommendations within EQAC Annual Reports on the Environment and the process through which County staff responds to these recommendations
Dr. Agazi discussed the Annual Report process and the staff response process and discussed some of the challenges associated with the timing of the current process. Dr. Agazi suggested identifying priority recommendations to present to the Board of Supervisors at an Environmental Committee Meeting following the presentation of the report as a mechanism to advance recommendations.

There was strong interest in EQAC presenting at the Environmental Committee but extensive discussion about what would be presented. Further categorization of recommendations in the Annual Report Scorecard to help the Board of Supervisors was discussed. There was not consensus about how to proceed and further discussion is expected as the 2018 Annual Report is produced. However, there was interest and consensus in the idea of preparing an introduction to the Scorecard section within which there would be identification of recommendations that had not been fully addressed that EQAC would want to have the Board of Supervisors address—an example that was discussed was EQAC’s recommendation for a wildlife assistant position.

4. Funding for Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) Projects
Dr. Agazi shared a draft of a list of potential Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) projects for funding for the next FY budget. There was discussion of the EIP’s purpose to
fund small scale environmental projects that would otherwise not be implemented. There was also discussion of whether the funding available through the EIP may increase. Chair Koch allowed Mr. Eric Goplerud, a citizen attending the meeting, to address the Council about the EIP. Mr. Goplerud expressed concern that the projects funded through the EIP did not reflect the Council’s recommendations in the 2017 Annual Report. The Council indicated the EIP is not intended to fund EQAC’s recommendations.

This discussion concluded the Joint Meeting and the Council took a ten minute recess before the start of the business meeting.

**Environmental Quality Advisory Council Business Meeting**

1. **Call to Order**
Chairman Koch called the meeting to order at 6:55 PM for the EQAC business meeting.

Chairman Koch indicated that Vice Chair Zaragoza was late due to traffic and asked Councilmember Wilber to present the draft of the Waste Management chapter.

   **Waste Management**
   The Council discussed the economics of recycling and the consequences of changes in the international market for recyclable materials. Councilmember Wilber reviewed his draft Scorecard entries and noted changes that he anticipated that he’d make. He also reviewed his proposed recommendations.

   Following discussion and incorporating amendments to recommendations 1 and 3, the chapter was adopted. Recommendation 1 was amended to more strongly highlight a concern about the changed recycling market, focus on total environmental impact/balance and add a regional focus. The Council authorized Councilmember Wilber to amend recommendation 3 following further discussion with the Department of Procurement and Material Management. EQAC also reached consensus that recommendation #4 (recommending a local option disposable bag litter abatement program and statewide container redemption fee) should be identified as an EQAC legislative priority.

   Motion: Wilber. Second: Gagnon.
   Record of the Vote: Unanimous, with no abstentions.

   Follow-up actions: Invite staff from the county’s recycling program to discuss recycling market issues. Invite staff from the county’s Department of Procurement and Material Management to discuss the county’s environmentally-preferable purchasing policy and its implementation.
Climate and Energy
Vice Chair Zaragoza and Councilmember Jacobson presented the draft Climate and Energy chapter, noting there were extensive changes from the 2017 report thanks to a wealth of additional data and the newly enacted Operational Energy Strategy.

Discussion of the chapter focused on striking a positive tone, prioritizing recommendations and simplifying and/or clarifying the presentation of recommendations and terms. There was discussion regarding the presentation of information relating to the Operational Energy Strategy and renewable energy goals and an agreement for a revision to the related text. There were also suggestions for combining certain recommendations. This chapter will come back for further review at the October meeting.

General Assembly Summary and Appendix
The summary report was deferred until the October meeting.

Land Use
The Land Use chapter was deferred until the October meeting.

Water
The Water chapter was deferred until the October meeting.

Scorecard
Drafts of the Transportation and Waste Management Scorecards had been circulated to the Council. Mr. Kaplan reminded the Council that Councilmember Grebe had agreed to assemble the Scorecard but the chapter authors were responsible for providing the documentation. Chairman Koch asked Mr. Kaplan to circulate a reminder about the scorecard so authors would complete the documentation for discussion at the October meeting.

Councilmember Wilber volunteered to draft an introduction to the Scorecard to provide context for recurring recommendations.

Cover design
Councilmember Hesser presented two cover designs. The consensus was that both designs were good. A combination of the layout from one design (the muddy stream bank) with the photo from the other (the stream) was preferable.

Priority Recommendations
Owing to the limited number of completed chapters, discussion of priorities was deferred until October.

3. Chairman’s Items
Chair Koch provided an update on the 8800 Richmond Highway land use case; a new Planning Commission public hearing on the proposed Plan Amendment has been scheduled
for October 24 and the likely Board of Supervisors hearing date is November 20. Additional public hearings will be held on the related rezoning application. The Council previously sent a letter opposing the proposed Plan Amendment.

Chair Koch indicated the land use attorney for the application had requested an opportunity to address the Council. Councilmember Wilber made a motion to invite the applicant; the motion was withdrawn without a second.

4. Council member items
Councilmember Wilber expressed concerns about the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enforcement capacity due to current staffing. As a result, additional responsibility falls to state and local government.

Vice Chair Zaragoza alerted the Council to the Mount Vernon District Environmental Summit on November 10. The focus of the summit is expected to be on actions individuals can take to support environmental protection and restoration; there will also be an exhibit area, and Supervisor Storck has invited EQAC to participate - a volunteer would be needed.

Councilmember Jacobson raised the issue of discussing her white paper on the County’s organizational structure, staffing and funding for energy and climate functions. Based on the expected agenda for October and comments from Mr. Mondoro, the Council felt this topic ought to be added to the November meeting agenda.

5. Staff Items
Mr. Kaplan advised the Council of upcoming meetings and events:
- September 18: Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee, including discussion of EQAC’s recommendation regarding disposable bags.
- October 2: Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee, including discussion of EQAC recommendations on changes to state solar legislation.
- October 2: Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee meeting.
- October 23: Environmental Excellence Award presentation.

Mr. Kaplan advised the Council that Craig Carinci and Danielle Wynne from the DPWES Stormwater program would provide presentations at the October 10 Council meeting. Additionally, the Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax will provide a presentation on the revision of the Community Health Improvement Plan. All remaining Annual Report chapters will also be reviewed at the October meeting.

Mr. Kaplan noted that he had been contacted by a county resident expressing interest in addressing EQAC about a bridge removal project along Difficult Run. He indicated that he had asked the resident to provide additional information and that he’d follow-up if/when he received this guidance.
Dr. Agazi advised the Council that County staff is continuing work on a Commercial Property-Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) ordinance. The timetable for the ordinance expects stakeholder engagement in the fall, a presentation to the Board’s Environmental Committee in February, with a recommendation for the Board of Supervisors to authorize a public hearing in the spring, and with a final ordinance and contract by the end of 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.