Baltimore County Advisory Commission on Environmental Quality March 22, 2017 Minutes of Meeting

Present: Lois Jacobs, Brian Bernstein, James Deriu, Dan Doerfer, Glenn Elseroad, Brian Fath, Karen Wynn, Brian Lindley, Kui Zhao.

I. Welcome:

a. CEQ Chair Lois Jacobs called the meeting to order.

II. Minutes from 2/25/2017 CEQ Meeting

a. Minutes approved, with minor corrections

III. Solar Bill:

- a. Farm Bureau brought issues to Councilwoman Almond regarding the use of farms after solar sites are removed.
- b. Many amendments were also suggested.
- c. Original bill was pulled unsolved issues and too many amendments made the bill unworkable.
- d. New bill introduced by Kach recently.
- e. 4/11 work session. New Kach bill will be discussed.
- f. Vicki Almond will attend the 4/26 CEQ meeting. She is aiming for end of April for new bill.

IV. Brian Lindley- EPS Overview:

- a. Brian Lindley gave overview of DEPS departments and their major roles.
- b. Changes occurring throughout DEPS as a result of budget constraints. Repeal of SW Remediation Fee has limited DEPS programs as they must cover current program requirements with less funding across the board.

V. Litter

- a. Mentoring opportunity- Towson HS student interested in attending CEQ and learning how it works. Further, she wants to determine what we have done or may be able to do regarding litter, including local collaboration for cleanup events. This is part of a Higvh School course dealing with environmental issues.
- b. How to Approach Problem- education seems to be the key. Bring the issue and potential solutions to individual citizens. CEQ will consider focused comments in the upcoming review of solid waste management plan. CEQ may revitalize plastic bag study in light of upcoming solid waste management plan.

VI. 10 Year Solid Waste Plan

a. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

VII. Membership Handbook

a. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

VIII. Bees v. Pesticides

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- a. Lois gave account of recent experience at the Spring Home and Garden Show. An exhibitor specializing in Native Plants hosted the XERCES Society whose handout warned of the dangers of Neonicotinoid Pesticides on Bees. There were objections from the many Pesticide Exhibitors but they were unable to shut down the Bee Advocates. The Maryland Legislature is working on this issue.
- b. CEQ will monitor issue and determine if there are appropriate actions in the future.

IX. Farm Walking Tour/Summer Social

a. Discussion tabled until the next meeting

X. Adjourn

XI. Next Meetings:

- a. April 26, 2017 (Councilwoman Vicki Almond Attending)
- b. May 24, 2017