

Minutes
Educational Advisory Committee (EAC)
21 October 2019 - 1:30 - 3:30 pm

In Attendance:

Bruce Taliaferro, Education
Ken Fisher, Forestry
Bob Sutton, Property Owner
Gary Aronhalt, Watershed Coordinator

Absent:

Willie Lantz, Agriculture
Lauren McCann, Business
Sarah Duck, Marketing
Richard Matlick, Property Owner
Gary Shafer, Property Owner
Greg Rouse, Recreation

Welcome /Opening Remarks:

Gary Aronhalt announced that the public hearing was held for the Deep Creek permit renewal. **Ken Fisher** noted that the hearing was well attended by the whitewater community. **Ken** also mentioned climate change as something that should drive future decision making. **Bob Sutton** asked if there were any updates on the question regarding the lower rule band. **Gary** said he would forward the question to MDE. **Gary** announced that the State Lakes Fund meeting was held at Garrett College, but was poorly attended.

Administrative Council Update

Gary Aronhalt announced that there were a few updates from the agencies. Garrett County is continuing with the development of the Comprehensive Plan. DNR had another successful year working with the launch steward program. The comment period is still open for the permit renewal and State Lakes Fund.

EAC Terms:

Gary Aronhalt distributed letters to the committee volunteers and asked them to respond if there were interested in continuing in their roles as committee volunteers. It was noted that attendance has been low and that volunteers should be reminded to contact their alternate if they are unable to attend. It was suggested that the Administrative Council require 50% attendance to remain on the committee.

Septic Outreach:

Gary Aronhalt distributed copies of the septic outreach handout to the EAC volunteers. **Bob Sutton** suggested that there might be a database available for septic owners. It was also noted that many homeowners are unaware of the location of their septic field and tank. It was noted that the Garrett County Health Department maintains maps of the septic locations in Garrett County.

Rain Barrels:

Gary Aronhalt updated the EAC on planning in coordination with the University of Maryland Extension Office regarding rain barrels. **Gary** stated that he and Ashley Bodkins were hopeful that rain barrels could be painted by local kids. It was suggested that the summer camps at Camp Hickory (4th & 5th graders) could possibly contribute. Jason King is the contact for Camp Hickory. Cub Scouts and 4H clubs could also possibly participate, and it was suggested that Willie Lantz may be able to assist in contacting the 4H clubs. It was thought that some schools may already have this type of activity incorporated into the curriculum. The status of the Green School initiative in Garrett County was unknown. Friendsville and Crellin were possible examples of schools that may still be participating. **Bruce Taliaferro** stated that any coordination with the schools should be discussed with Barbara Baker prior to implementation.

December Meeting:

Gary Aronhalt stated that the Administrative Council would be available to meet with the Educational Advisory Committee on Monday, December 2nd at 1:30. **Gary** announced that Garrett County would provide lunch and the discussion would be informal. The EAC was asked to RSVP. It was suggested to cancel the November meeting due to the December 2nd meeting being so close.

Meeting Conclusion:

Gary Aronhalt asked the committee for any questions. There were no questions.

The meeting was adjourned.

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