



PATUXENT RIVER COMMISSION

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Larry Hogan, Governor
Councilman Michael Leszcz, Co-Chairman
Frederick Tutman, Co-Chairman
Christopher Perry, Vice Chairman

We, the Patuxent River Commission, envision a Patuxent River ecosystem as vital and productive in 2050 as it was in the 1950s. We therefore commit to be stewards and advocates for the Patuxent River and to lead and inspire actions to protect, enhance, and restore living resources and the natural, cultural, economic, and recreational values of the Patuxent River and its watershed.

☀ Please call Daniel Rosen at MDP 410-767-4577 if you have any questions or comments.

MEETING SUMMARY

January 10, 2018

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Annapolis, MD

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Members: Michael Leszcz, Co-Chair; Christopher Perry, Vice-Chair; Erik Michelsen; Erica Hahn; Martin Chandler; Mark Symborski; Sandy Spencer; Andrew Der; Jeanine Nutter (for Steve Darcey); Luis Dieguez; Byron Petrauskas; Matthew Rowe; Alison Armocida; Jason Dubow; Mark Mendelsohn

Attendees: Scott Knoche;

MDP Staff: Jason Dubow, Deborah Herr Cornwell, and Daniel Rosen

Update – Appointments

Jason Dubow provided an update on the Commissioners' appointment status. All appointments are still at the Governor's Appointment Office and will hopefully be sent to the Legislature during this session.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November 8, 2017 and December 13, 2017 meetings were adopted unanimously.

Draft Annual Action Plan for 2018

Jason Dubow provided the background for the draft 2018 Annual Action Plan, noting that the plan builds upon the 2017 Plan adding new items and removing completed actions. Chairman Leszcz asked the Commission to review the draft and provide comments prior to the February meeting. Mr. Leszcz mentioned two potential action items: a) potential golf course closures and reuse options and b) proposed Maglev project. Representatives from the Maglev project will be invited to make a presentation to the Commission so that the Commissioners can be educated and make appropriate comments and/or recommendations.

Mark Symborski provided copies of the Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC's) presentation to the Patuxent Reservoirs Watershed Protection Group's Policy Board and highlighted the concerns raised about Road Salt applications and increased sodium and chloride levels in the drinking water reservoirs. The TAC made several recommendations to the Policy Board including establishing an

interjurisdictional/ interagency workgroup. Chairman Leszcz suggested sending a letter to all the State Delegates to bring the road salt problem to their attention. The Commission discussed the issue and decided to send a letter to the Patuxent Reservoirs Watershed Protection Group's Policy Board stating that the Commission supports the recommendations of the TAC and offers to facilitate development of an Action Plan.

Draft Letter regarding Implementation of Patuxent TMDLs by Counties, City of Laurel and WSSC

Jason Dubow reviewed the draft letter, noting that it would be sent to local governments and soil conservation districts in the watershed and is an offer by the Commission to convene a workshop to begin discussions on how to achieve TMDLs for the Patuxent River and its tributaries.

The Commission approved submission of the letter and Chairman Leszcz offered the City of Laurel as the host for the workshop location. Matt Rowe noted he would confirm that the TMDL list for the watershed is up to date. MDP staff will work with the City of Laurel to confirm the location and workshop date. The workshop will be held after the end of the Legislative Session.

Proposal for Sewage Overflow Notification Workgroup to review MDE's draft guidance

Dan Rosen provided an overview of the proposed sewage spill notification guidance document, developed by the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Maryland Department of Health, in response to the Commission's concerns. Dan provided comparisons between the Commission's recommendations and the draft document regarding notifications and local jurisdiction discretion.

Dan will set up a meeting of the Sewage Overflow Notification Workgroup to review the document and findings will be presented to the Commission. Matt Rowe noted that an online notification system is being developed.

Update - Patuxent River Challenge

Jason Dubow provided an update on the Patuxent River Challenge – draft press releases have been prepared for the participating groups and the website will provide a listing of all locations. A governor's proclamation will be requested for potential presentation at the Annual Wade-in. Jason will provide copies of the Public Notices to the Commission members.

Bills of Interest to the Commission introduced in the General Assembly

Dan Rosen provided a list of proposed legislation that will be before the General Assembly this session. Since the session was just getting underway, there may be additional Bills that the Commission will be interested in. There were questions raised about SB 100 – Reservoir, Dam or Water-way obstruction Plans – Designation of Approval Authority. Dan will provide a copy of the bill to Commission members.

Report on the 12.6.17 Patuxent River Conference

Vice Chair Chris Perry provided an update on the conference noting it was a great program and was well attended.

Open Floor

Vice Chair Perry presented a potential topic/presentation for a future meeting “Resident Goose Issue in Watershed”.