



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

May 9, 2018

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Annapolis, MD

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

Members: Michael Leszcz, Co-Chair; Fred Tutman, Co-Chair; Erik Michelsen, Erica Hahn, Mary Kay Sigaty, Joanna Smith, Mike Hewitt, Martin Chandler, Mark Symborski, John Hartline, Al Tucker, Barbara Sollner-Webb, John McCoy, Guy Curley, Scott Knoche, Thomas Miller, Jeanine Nutter (for Steve Darcey), Luis Dieguez, Matt Rowe, Secretary Robert McCord, Sandy Hertz, Mark Mendelsohn

Attendees: Rieyn DeLony, Chuck Boyd, Jason Dubow, Susan Gray

The Commission discussed state guidance contained within the May 2, 2018 Policy Memo from the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) regarding “The Patuxent River Commission’s authority to review operations of local government”, and different viewpoints from other Commission members concerning the guidance and the Commission’s authority and purpose.

The following handouts were made available at the Commission meeting: the Policy Memo; the Patuxent Riverkeeper’s (Fred Tutman, Co-Chair) May 9, 2018 letter to the Commission; the Vice-Chair’s (Chris Perry) May 9, 2018 e-mail to the Commission Co-Chairs; and Barbara Sollner-Webb’s May 9, 2018 documents regarding an analysis of state statutory language, a draft letter to the Howard County Council regarding the proposed Settlement at Savage Mill development, and supporting material for the draft letter.

Planning Secretary Robert McCord expressed concern regarding Commission members identifying themselves as members of the Commission when providing testimony in local proceedings.

The Commission also discussed the draft letter to the Howard County Council. The Commission postponed a decision regarding the draft letter until they reach a conclusion regarding the state’s guidance regarding the Commission’s authority to review operations of local government.