



Town of North Beach
Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 7, 2022
7 PM at Town Hall and on Zoom

Attendees: Elizabeth Lawton, Lisa Garrett, Allan Creamer, Jeff Noyes, Herb Wolff, Sean Mansperger, Vince Antonioli

Note: This was a joint meeting with the Tree Committee. Tree Committee minutes follow those for the Environmental Committee on this document.

Agenda and discussion: This meeting's focus was the upcoming Earth Day Celebration. A quorum was present.

Earth Day Celebration June 18th, 9-12AM

- 3 large banners will be displayed – Wetlands Overlook Park, Sunrise Garden, and on the fence at the Senior Center for Farmers Market
- Earth Day, now called Earth Day Every Day to remain date-flexible based on unpredictable April weather
- Environmental, Stormwater, Tree Committees, Watershed Stewards, North Beach House & Garden Club will have tables, Bayside History will support the event at their location with a door prize. Senior Center will also have door prize.
- M&T Bank wants to support the town, but can't attend this event and so will likely support an event/activity in the fall.
- Lisa has printed signs and pictures for use on the Tree Committee Table. Also, Tree City banner and recycling info (for EC table), as well as field guides to help residents identify trees in NB.
- Elizabeth provided details about the EC table
 - Campaign for proper recycling is vital (in particular, due to new contract next year). Visual presentation for the table supports and kicks off a public education focus on what materials can be recycled
 - Examples of single use plastics (NOT recyclable)
 - Hang tags for display and for use in town
 - Displays for the Sustainable MD program
 - Action areas on which NB is graded (10 criteria), applicability of a subset of these to NB (table created for handout, broken out by project and committee)
 - Burn Oaks wetlands cleanup
 - Recycling
 - A tree committee project (ideas from Sean: tree signage/labels, ID'ing problem trees around community, ID'ing areas where new trees might be planted)
 - Sustainable North Beach – relates to larger SM program
 - Background on 14 states implementing similar programs
 - Connections: Eco Tourism-Sustainable MD-Sustainable NB

- Grant opportunities supporting SM MD recert in 2024

Sustainable Programs in Other States

- Herb provided more information on the 14 states along the eastern seaboard with sustainable programs. These states want to share information on their sustainability efforts, so Herb plans to reach out to these partners to leverage work they've already done to help Sustainable North Beach.
- Elizabeth added that Mike Hunninghake (SM Program Lead) ran NJ's sustainable program before he came to MD.
- Elizabeth was sensitive to time and resource constraints with NB's program, emphasizing that future efforts need to be driven by plans that fit into a cohesive program that can be properly resourced.

National Wildlife Federation Certification

- Lisa explained that there are two approaches to an NWF cert, of which she intends to pursue the easier one initially.
 - Single site: there are 10 qualifications that need to be met. Then a sign can be obtained for the site (in this case, Sunrise Garden).
 - Community designation: there are a lot more steps to this certification, making this a possible future goal. Chesapeake Beach is pursuing this designation for their rail trail, which is on a large section of land and has some funding behind it.

Meeting adjourned

The next Environmental Committee meeting will be July 5, 2022.