

COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT (COE) MINUTES
Potomac Building
Minutes of July 11, 2012

COE Members present were Mike Thompson, Barne Wheeler, Steve Tripp and Heather Moritz, Mindy Johnson & Marta Kelsey and Larry Langley. Members absent were Laura Friess, & Paul DiBenedetto. Others present were Paul Waxman.

- I) **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II) **Discussion & Approval Meeting Minutes:** The June meeting minutes were approved as changed.
- III) **Continuing Business:**
 - a. **Attendance.** The group unanimously agreed that if a member is not willing to attend at least the required minimum number of meetings, they should not be on the Commission. Specifically the group highlighted Mr. DiBenedetto, who has not attended any meetings in the last 6 months. Mr. Langley will contact him and find out what the problem is and, if he is not planning to attend regularly, to please send in a letter or email to that effect. Mr. Langley will also contact Ms. Friess and find out what her situation is. Report out to the group at the next meeting.
 - b. **Web & Facebook sites.** Steve Tripp led the “brain storming” discussion on the planned new COE web site. Among the topics discussed were:
 - 1. The new site should be County specific, and branch out into broader topics only when necessary
 - 2. The following Key Categories were initially identified as belonging on the site, subject to additional review: land use, water and air quality, recycling/composting/solid waste, green building info & plants & animals.
 - 3. The group agreed that there should be a place where all COE generated issues could be stored to serve as an historical record of actions taken and results achieved.
 - 4. The group also agreed that the site might also build a bibliography of County specific environmental issues.
 - 5. Who should be the target group for the site was discussed. No conclusions were reached. The following possible groups were mentioned: environmentalists, people who are on the fence and could use an easy place to get relevant information & parents with school age children.
 - 6. Who should be permitted to post to the site was briefly discussed, but no conclusions made.
 - 7. Steve Tripp will take the results of the above session and develop a “draft” site layout to show the group. Not specific timetable was identified to do this.
 - c. **Critical Area Regulations Update.** The group again unanimously agreed that the COE should become actively involved in the review of this document as soon as it is available. Mr. Langley to contact Sue Veith to make sure the COE is on the distribution list as soon as the revised document is available.
- IV) **New Business:** None
- V) **Announcements:** None
- VI) **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.