

Minutes
Educational Advisory Committee (EAC)
17 September 2018 - 2:00 - 4:00 pm

In Attendance:

Ken Fisher, Forestry
Willie Lantz, Agriculture
Greg Rouse, Recreation
Gary Shafer, Property Owner
Bruce Taliaferro, Education
Gary Aronhalt, Watershed Coordinator

Absent:

Sarah Duck, Marketing
Richard Matlick, Property Owner
Lauren McCann, Business
Bob Sutton, Property Owner

Welcome /Opening Remarks:

Gary Aronhalt announced that **Sarah Duck**, **Bob Sutton** and **Lauren McCann** had reported that they would not be present for the meeting. The committee volunteers each introduced themselves to **Greg Rouse** who represents Recreation on the EAC.

Outreach Planning

The committee reviewed the logo and discussed alternative phrasing for the text (“Protect and Preserve”) that appears on the lower half of the logo. **Ken Fisher** suggested keeping the text and adding “It’s up to you!” in a separate box below the logo. Those in attendance were in agreement with Ken’s suggestion. **Willie Lantz** commented that the term “Preserve” may not be agreeable for all stakeholders.

The committee reviewed the results of the ranking exercise conducted at a previous meeting. **Gary Aronhalt** asked the committee if they would like to reevaluate the prioritization exercise. The committee volunteers suggested revisiting the prioritization by polling the EAC volunteers for their top 5 priorities. The committee also suggested incorporating the results into the six categories identified in the 20 August 2018 minutes. The committee also asked that evaluation instructions be sent to the EAC volunteers with the draft minutes. **Bruce Taliaferro** noted that the hierarchy used regarding “Goals, Objectives, and Strategies” within the Deep Creek Watershed Plan may not be the most commonly accepted. **Bruce** suggested that the typical hierarchy is “Goals, Strategies, and Objectives”.

The committee discussed the Marketing Campaign Outline. The committee agreed to remove examples iv-vii from the outline. The group also suggested adding newspaper, radio, and personal presentations to community groups and organizations to the list of outreach tools. The committee discussed the potential for educating the youth in Garrett County schools regarding watershed issues. Barbara Baker and Paul Edwards were suggested as contacts within the school system. The committee also discussed the draft overarching marketing plan and outreach plan and suggested combining the three documents into a single document at the next meeting.

Gary Aronhalt displayed and distributed maps of the sub-watersheds of the Deep Creek Watershed and asked the committee if there should be any consideration to outreach and education based on geography. **Gary** provided examples including septic and sewerage that varied geographically. The committee decided that the outreach mechanisms that they had chosen would not require any special geographic focus.

Administrative Council Update

Gary Aronhalt shared the following updates from the Administrative Council:

Gary Aronhalt announced that the renewal of the MOU, which is set to expire on 30 September 2018 is underway. **Gary** announced that MDE is awaiting the Brookfield Permit application submission, but have not received it to date. MDE is considering if a permit process article or diagram might be helpful. MDE will assist with a biannual newsletter to promote topics related to the lake and the watershed, as appropriate. **Gary** also announced that Garrett County's Comprehensive Plan Open Houses are now completed. The consultants plan to review comments at the Planning Commission Meeting (3 Oct). A tentative draft could be ready as early as 7 November. A public review process will follow with a public meeting likely to be held in December at Garrett College. **Gary** announced that DNR had completed hydrilla treatments for the year and is currently collecting water quality data. **Julie Bortz** will forward an update from DNR as soon as possible.

EAC - Year-in-Review

Gary Aronhalt informed the EAC volunteers that he had invited the Administrative Council to attend the December EAC meeting. **Gary** asked those in attendance if they had any known conflicts for the December meeting. There were no known conflicts. The EAC will have the opportunity to formally present their ideas and priorities to the Administrative Council. The committee will also be able to ask questions and address concerns.

Questions for the Administrative Council:

Gary Aronhalt asked if there were any questions to be presented to the Administrative Council. There were no questions.

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