

Minutes
Educational Advisory Committee (EAC)
15 April 2019 - 1:30 - 3:30 pm

In Attendance:

Ken Fisher, Forestry
Lauren McCann, Business
Gary Shafer, Property Owner
Bob Sutton, Property Owner
Bruce Taliaferro, Education
Gary Aronhalt, Watershed Coordinator

Absent:

Sarah Duck, Marketing
Willie Lantz, Agriculture
Richard Matlick, Property Owner
Greg Rouse, Recreation

Welcome /Opening Remarks:

Gary Aronhalt announced that **Willie Lantz**, **Richard Matlick**, and **Greg Rouse** had reported that they would not be present for the meeting.

Administrative Council Update

Gary Aronhalt announced that there were no updates from DNR. Gary stated that MDE was currently participating in the Deep Creek Lake Water Appropriation Permit Renewal Stakeholder input process. Two of three stakeholder meetings have been held. **Gary** reminded the EAC that the Permits and Inspections Department was now merged with the Department of Planning & Land Management. He also announced that Reggie Breeding, Stormwater Engineer, would soon be leaving the department. The County anticipates filling the vacancy.

Survey:

Gary Aronhalt displayed the survey on the projector screen and asked the committee if they had any final comments. **Ken Fisher** stated that he felt that the survey was not consistent with the goals of the EAC. He explained that surveys are complicated, less useful politically, and not an educational activity. **Ken** also stated that the Administrative Council should review past surveys conducted by the Chamber of Commerce in addition to other available information. **Ken** suggested that the value of the survey was unclear and how the survey would be completed was not well understood.

Ken stated that many positive accomplishments have come out of the EAC in the past two years; however, there are some concerns:

1. There is some confusion regarding the EAC promoting countywide outreach and education. Particularly, why is the Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan directed at Garrett County?
2. The logo's design might need to be redesigned to establish a clear separation of foreground and background.
3. The EAC should focus on educational messages for citizens.

Bob Sutton and **Gary Shafer** also commented and were in agreement with **Ken**. **Bob** recommended that the Administrative Council contact **Sarah Duck** regarding the Chamber survey. A majority of the EAC members present at the meeting agreed that the survey was complete, so there was no harm in going forward with it. The EAC asked to be informed of the results.

Logo:

Gary Aronhalt asked if the EAC wished for the logo to not appear on the survey. The EAC recommended leaving the logo on the survey for exposure. The EAC also asked that the three logos representing the agencies be included. **Ken Fisher** suggested that the logo may need to be revised because he had received comments about the bass appearing to eat the eagle. It was suggested that the County may wish to postpone the copyright process; however, the EAC ultimately agreed to recommend leaving the logo as is. **Bruce Taliaferro** suggested that the bass/ eagle might enhance recognition of the logo.

Water-Wise Garrett County:

Gary Aronhalt distributed draft copies of materials for a proposed Water-Wise Garrett County Program. He explained that the program would be managed by the University of Maryland Extension and was developed in coordination with DNR and Garrett County. **Gary** began to go over the contents with the committee; however, several committee volunteers asked to not continue reviewing the materials. It was suggested that this type of review might not be consistent with the goals of the EAC. **Gary** asked if the logo should be removed from the Water Wise information. The EAC again asked for the logo to be left on.

Meeting Conclusion:

The EAC asked for the Administrative Council to provide an update on implementing the recommendations from the December EAC meeting including any schedule or funding plans. The committee also asked that the Administrative Council consider adding all three logos to the survey. The committee also asked that the Administrative Council present an idea for the first outreach message. **Lauren McCann** suggested that it would be helpful to meet with the Administrative Council again.

The meeting was adjourned.

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