

Monroe County Environmental Commission

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Monroe County Commissioners

(812) 349-2550

Courthouse, Room 315

Bloomington, IN 47404

“The Commission shall serve in an advisory role and focus on educating the community and engaging residents and businesses in supporting initiatives which will help ensure a healthier and more economically viable future for the County.”

Minutes for Monday, June 22, 2020 at 5:30pm

Remote Meeting via Zoom

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm.

A Quorum was Present: N Hendon (Pres), D Simcox (Sec), T Phillipson, R Swiakowski, L Travis, D Warren and K Wiltz

II. No members of the public were in attendance.

III. The minutes were unanimously approved for the February and May, 2020 meetings.

IV. Hoosier Resilience Index

Zac Richardson along with Andrea Webster presented from the IU Resilience Institute.

<https://hri.eri.iu.edu/about/introduction.html>

They described the Hoosier Resilience Index. The HRI assessments involve 8 worksheets which should result in 1-5 tangible actions. This assessment will form a baseline and should be revisited every two years or so. The assessments have been tailored to Monroe County.

ERIT – is data set from EPA which has been populated with IN city and community data.

HRI also provides Resilience case studies, a webinar series and interns to help develop communities the assessment. It is left up to the communities to release their scores and assessments. It has been announced that Fishers, Lafayette and Culver have participated. Currently five assessments have been completed and 10 communities are working on it.

COB started earlier this year. We should look to partner with them

The group concluded that we should gain input from the Commissioners on how to proceed. Nolan volunteered to draft a memo and circulate.

V. Update on progress of updating the Environmental Commission ordinance. K Wiltz has received input from County Legal. We should use uniform provision code 216 which includes an annual report to document activities.

Two areas remain unresolved - energy usage and the funds they generate. It was suggested by T Phillipson to explore the idea of an environmental educator to take this on as one aspect of their job.

K Wiltz will circulate the updated document.

VI. Resume discussion of strategic plan for the remainder of 2020. D Warren to redistribute the earlier documents.

VII. R Swiakowski was nominated and elected as Secretary.

VIII. No discussion was held on selecting the next speakers.

Other: From D Warren - Bloomington and Monroe County is conducting a survey on transportation. Here is the link to the MPO's metropolitan transportation plan survey. The MPO wants as many people as possible to take this survey, so please share far and wide throughout the county. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScWhaarYhcWZjPm0aExHuXOPTKoP45FNyoy65bDwOedqiEEEg/viewform>

IX. The next meeting will be held Wednesday July 8th, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53p

- D Simcox