

Monroe County Environmental Commission

www.greenmonroecounty.wordpress.com

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 Wednesday, July 08, 2020 at 5:30pm

Remote Meeting via Zoom

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:33pm.

A Quorum was Present: N. Hendon (Pres), T. Phillipson, R. Swiakowski (Sec), L. Travis (VP), D. Warren, and L. Jones

II. No members of the public were in attendance.

III. The minutes were unanimously approved for the June 22, 2020 meeting.

IV. Discussion of strategic plan for the remainder of 2020

1. Monroe County Needs Assessment
 - a. Discussed creating and circulating a Needs Assessment Survey to determine Monroe County residents’ top 3 issues of interest related to the environment.
 - b. Possibility of using funds available to the commission to mail the survey to residents without internet access.
2. Monroe County HRI
 - a. A letter will be drafted to the Commissioners explaining the plan and asking for support. The Commission will be starting on this and making use of potential assistance from ERI interns
3. Monroe County government building energy tracking
 - a. This effort is potentially being done by a county employee. If so, then the MoCo Environmental Commission can look to advise on that effort.
4. Other areas of focus for the commission in 2020?
 - a. Air Quality Monitoring
 - i. Discussed the potential of collaborating with IU faculty in the School of Public Health.
 - b. Lake Monroe Stakeholder Summit
 - i. Discussed the possibility of the Commission helping the Friends of Lake Monroe Lake continue this initiative.
 - c. Environmental Grants Program

- i. Discussed the potential of using funds available to the commission for grants to do environmental work in the county. Discussed possibility of writing language into the ordinance to support this.
- d. Environment-Related FAQ
 - i. Discussed potential of the Commission informing the public on environmental threats and opportunities in the county, as well as the tools and constraints of local governments in relation to environmental work.
- e. Web presence
 - i. Discussed using the County's official web presence to share educational outreach materials. Also discussed possibility of an independent Monroe Co Environmental Commission social media presence.

V. Next Speakers: Commissioner Jones will reach out to Terry Quigley of the Stormwater District to present to the Monroe County Environmental Commission.

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

Other: July 18 Blackout at Lake Monroe organized by the Monroe County Black Democratic Caucus for Black people and allies to support Black engagement in the outdoors.

T Phillipson notified the Commission that she would be leaving the Commission in the future, though she hopes to stay on until a replacement can be found.

IX. The next meeting will be held Wednesday August 15th 12th, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm