



MONROE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
&
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
Monroe County Commissioners

Courthouse, Room 315
Bloomington, IN 47404

Dave Parsons, Chair
Marie Fleming, Secretary

5:30-7:00 pm
North Showers Building
RM 100B
510 N. Morton Street
812-349-2550

December 12, 2012

- I. Call to Order 5:36

- II. Roll Call Julia DeBruicker Valliant, Dave Parsons, Ben Stidd, Susan Snider Salmon, Terry Usrey, Ian Yarbrough, Marie Fleming Regrets Jacqui Bauer, Rick Dietz, Ashley Cranor. Also absent Barb Lantz, Emilie Rex.

- III. Public Comment NONE

- IV. Upcoming Events
 - a. Christmas Bird Counts – Audubon Society website for more details. Counts are at Lake Monroe Dec 15th, Goose Pond Dec 19th, Spring Mill & Brown County Dec 16th more in Jan. Each one has a contact person who places people on teams. All welcome.
 - b. Solar PV Boot Camp funded by a US gov't grant to Ivy Tech is being held next week. There will be thirteen participants.

- V. Community Presentation: NONE

- VI. Approval of November Minutes
Susan moved and Ben seconded to approve the minutes. Unanimously passed.

- VII. New member, Julia, introduced herself and we introduced ourselves to Julia.

- VIII. Report from the Chair
Year in review - Dave shared thoughts on what the commission has done and what it could do. A list of accomplishments includes:
Energy Fair
Public presentation of the energy audit by Schmidt and Associates
Started discussing the Thomson Property and got permission from Commissioners to pursue public input.
Passage of an ordinance establishing a non-reverting fund to capture funds that come from the county's energy savings efforts and can be used to support further initiatives
Tracking and reporting of Fleet energy use, which will be part of the annual report
Community presentation topics included County Fleet; Trillium/Thomson Park: Parks and Recreation, Trails; Soil and Water Conservation;
Defined a list of "low-hanging fruit" (quick return on investment) from the energy audit and recommended those to the commissioners

Created a mission statement
Energy and Thomson subcommittees have been established.
Annual report will be complete by January 31,

Basic structure is in place for going forward. Most important piece of where we are is that we might look at broader categories such as water – watershed; what is being done by county government and see what should be done, then make recommendations to commissioners. Set up action to do pieces that present themselves.
Promoting local food thru zoning, partnerships
Solid waste – Co. is 5% above national average but still nothing is being done on organic solid waste
Transportation – what might apply to the county outside the city?
Education in the schools, in public.
Look at an issue, identify changes, act as advisors to county, and track progress
We are invited to share additional ideas via email.

Reports from Represented Organizations

- a. City of Bloomington
- b. Indiana University
- c. Monroe County Soil and Water Just finishing the 319 grant (on best management practices) final report (Bean Blossom Watershed). Not as successful as it might have been due to premature staff departure. The project constructed numerous management structures to keep sediment out of streams. One other component addressed high e-coli levels in the watershed. Results of the work won't be known for some time. Follow up in a few years would be needed in order to gauge success. The grant was for \$400,000. Dog park and stream improvements in Ellettsville. Martha Miller has a PP presentation on the program.
- d. Monroe County Government
Grant results will be known soon. Ashley will keep us posted.

Susan raised concerns about the “editorial comments” that appear in the agenda.
Also expressed concern about the directions from which annual report-writing responsibilities. Dave will contact Barb to check in.

IX. Reports from Sub-Committees

- a. Energy
 - i. Update Annual Report Meeting (see draft)
 1. Ashley presented the Commission with a draft report format. Chapters...discuss topics and organization. Go through each section, some easier than others. Note, Ashley gave suggestions for summary intro authors...but people can choose whether or not to participate or indicate a preference for a different chapter.
 2. Ian and Ashley will start pulling the document together and will need volunteers (maybe 2) for editing throughout December.
 3. Document needs to be in front of the Commissioners for APPROVAL by Jan 31, we should get it to them at least 1 week prior for REVIEW.
 4. Ian and Terry will have to have all calculations done before our regular January meeting, January 9, 2013, for discussion.
 5. Need to come up with a recommended framework for dispensing non-reverting fund to present to the County Council in February.

Dave will work on Chapter 1 Coordinate suggested uses of the non-reverting fund to avoid duplicating efforts of other organizations

Data in Chapter 2 will provide the basis for Chapter 5

Barb and Susan will work on Chapter 6

Chapter 6 Terry and Rick and Ian. They will propose a formula for capturing the savings for the non-reverting fund.

Susan requests having hard copies of the draft report for review at our January 9 meeting.

Dave will have quite a bit of free time over school break.

Chapter 7 Marie and Jacqui will do special projects summary

Special Meeting to approve the annual report for the Commissioners: Thursday, January 24 5:30 @ Showers.

b. Thomson Property task force

i. Update Stakeholder Inventory

1. Need to choose 16 members from among suggested lists, for County Commissioner approval. Marie will organize a subcommittee meeting to have this discussion.
2. We also need to recommend a framework for going forward and recommend same to the Commissioners. We are asked to submit our recommendations for the January Commissioners' meeting. This means presenting our recommendations for EQ&SC approval at our January 9, 2013 meeting.

Old Business: Dave will send a letter of thanks to Megan Hutchison for her service to the Commission.

New Business:

- Membership 2013. Dave asked if there is anyone who needs or wants to step down for 2013; otherwise each of us will be automatically reappointed. This will happen along with filling the open seat at the Commissioners meeting in January.
- Dave will send a letter to every member of the Commission notifying them of the above. Dave is willing to continue as chair.
- 2013 meeting dates will be second Wednesday of the month
- Recommend having no community presentation in January.

Next meeting - January 9, 2013. Location TBA. Several of those present expressed a preference to meet at the North Morton building because parking at the courthouse is so difficult.

Adjournment – Susan moved to adjourn. Approved.