

MCCC Steering Committee Meeting

October 27, 2016, 10:00 am -12:00 pm – MDE

Attendance: Earl Lewis, John Fiastro, Tad Aburn, Ben Grumbles, Anne Lindner, Susan Payne, Jason Dubow, Liz Entwisle, David Costello, Mike Powell, Lori Arguelles, Lisa Nissley, Brian Hug, Luke Wisniewski, Jessica Herpel, Erick Thunell

On the Phone: Matt Fleming, Dave Nemazie, Allison Rich, Margie Brassil, Stuart Clarke

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

- This meeting is for discussion on the draft report; gathering feedback and hearing major concerns

Agenda Item #2: Review of the Draft Annual Report

- The full commission had a good conversation in the 10/21 meeting
 - Work group representatives went through all their respective recommendations, explaining and answering any concerns about them
 - Ultimately, the commission was OK with all recommendations with consensus
- The report will be 29-30 pages
- The design is straightforward; it has background history/structure, shows the law, and has an update on the climate change science in Maryland
 - Ch.3 is a science and policy update
 - Ch.4 speaks on expectations for climate impacts on the environment, the economy, and human health
 - Ch.5 puts the Work Group recommendations in paragraph form (as well as referencing the exact recommendations which are located in the appendices)
- Comment: put the specific names of commission members and possibly Work Group members at the end of their respective sections
- No questions/concerns on the state of the report and Ch.5

Agenda Item #3: Standing reports - Working Group Reports

- ARWG – having a meeting on Friday November 4, 10am – 12pm (on Public/Private Partnerships)
 - Will discuss things like local government, activities on the eastern shore, as well as working with small businesses in the future
- MWG – key issue is deciding on priorities for the coming year
 - Waiting on methane update from STWG (on the quality of methane released by various activities)
 - Had a meeting on methane; what methane is included in our state inventory
 - Must form work plans for 2017; make specific language on recommendations in work plans to be sent to the Steering Committee and full Commission for approval in 2017
 - Starting formal stakeholder process concerning fugitive emissions from in-state methane
 - Started outreach to underserved communities, like Pasadena and North Point, and plan to do more in the future

- ECO WG
 - Nothing to update since Friday's meeting
 - ECO has a meeting in November to work on their work plan
 - Asked for guidance in direction; how much should ECO be working on methane vs other things, for example
 - Ben: You should be working on everything, but not necessarily giving everything the same amount of time
 - Other working groups will work on priorities to send them a more complete answer in the future
 - Question: Are agency meetings/outreach events something ECO should be promoting (or should this stick to commission activity only)?
 - Provide information this year, afterwards ECO and the Steering Committee can decide if this is appropriate
 - There will be more discussion in future meetings
 - ECO wants to make tools to bring more information to the climate change commission

Agenda #4: New Business

- Next year's meeting plans
 - Work plans
 - Work products
 - Report writing process
- MDE will package and submit State Agency Reports
- 2018 report will be the huge one (culmination of growth year)
 - Could propose legislation
 - We can include stuff in the interim report like methane because it will be in the final plan
 - Next year (2017) we'll have a little more detail
- November 9th meeting
 - Possible showing from extra-territorial regional agreements with RGGI
 - Include a spot for news from state agencies in the agenda
 - Work groups will get a chance to speak already
- Tentative schedule for 2017 meetings:
 - April 19th, June 21st, September 20th, November 1st (full commission meetings)
 - Probably will make a placeholder for an October meeting if we need it

Agenda #5: Final comments

- Any news from Town Creek funding? – no significant updates
 - It has been communicated with various groups and projects, they are currently talking with the review team and what to move forward in the next few weeks
 - "Some proposals aren't as time sensitive as others"
 - We should be able to re-allocate the funds that were to be spent on an editor, since we did not hire one (probably, not definitely)
- Comment: for the 2018 big report, there's a possibility of turnover on the commission if we get a lot of new appointees – we should consider this and make sure we have the tools to get everyone on the same page to maximize meeting efficiency
- The meeting concluded at 11:03 am.