

**Commission on Environmental Justice & Sustainable Communities (CEJSC)**  
**Montgomery Park Baltimore, MD**  
**January 22, 2019**  
**9:30 am-11:30 am**

**Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance**

- **Commissioners:** Duane Johnson, Camille Burke, Subha Chandar, Robert Hackman, Lesliam Quira-Alcala, Joseph Griffiths, John Pagagni, Malachy Rice
- **Participants:** Stephanie Cobb-Williams, Tamara Tooloes O’Laughlin

**Introductions**

- Camille Burke started the meeting by welcoming everyone and asking everyone to introduce themselves.

**Camille Burke made several announcements**

- Camille is now the Children’s Environmental Health Protection Advisory Council (CEHPAC) representative for CEJSC. She suggested to the Commissioners that if anyone would like to get involved with the CEHPAC to let her or Duane know.
- She mentioned that there are several vacancies on the CEJSC Commission and if anyone knows of anyone who would be interested to let Duane know.
- Duane will send out the names of various interest groups being sought after by the Governor’s Appointment Office.
- Camille mentioned that the Commissioners voted to have meetings bi-monthly.
- She announced that Derience Pate- Bennett resigned from the Commission and asked the Commissioners to continue to recruit new Commission members.
- Camille indicated that she and Duane have reached out to the PG County EJ Commission about partnering with them but have not yet received a response.
- Robert Hackman thought it would be good if Senator Clarence Lam could still be associated with the Commission since he was previously associated with the Commission as a House Delegate.

**Presentation-Upcoming Legislative/Policy Issues**

Tamara Tooloes O’Laughlin Executive Director of the Maryland Environmental Health Network (MDEHN) provided an overview of the upcoming 2019 Legislative Session and of MDEHN’s priorities that include climate and energy, vulnerable population health and toxics and chemical exposure protection.

- Tamara shared information on several lead bills being introduced this session.
- She talked about the Environmental Justice Legislative Team and its founding members including: The Community Church, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Partners for the Chesapeake Bay, the Sierra Club and others.

- She said another program they work with is called Community of Communities is made up of communities affected by gas that have joined forces to build defenses and protections through regulatory and legislation.
- Tamara talked about the National Green Amendments and Policy Models
- She described Health Impact Assessment as a combination of procedures or methods by which a policy, program or project may be judged based on the impact it may have on the health of a population.
- She also talked about Rapid Health Impact Assessments and the- Community Science Data Bill.
- Duane will get the slide presentation and send it to the Commissioners.

Duane asked how the Commission can help with the work MDEHN does?

- Tamara said the Commission could talk with the Community of Communities and tell them what the Commission's mission is and talk about what's on each other's priorities, and also join EJ legislation calls.
- Joseph Griffiths suggested using the MDEHN model as guide instead of trying to recreate the wheel since MDEHN seems to be so far ahead in their work around outreach.
- Joseph said he will reach out to Tamara to get more information on the MDEHN outreach plan and how they interact with the community.
- Tamara said it would be great if the Commission could come to their network meeting and speak to the people. She said they have four meetings with their network each year.
- Tamara said the Community of Communities meets bi-weekly and that they can make time to come to the Commission, the Commission can go to them, or a webinar could be done.
- Duane asked if MDEHN has a calendar of events. Tamara said one is on their website.

### **Goals 2019**

- Continue to work on the 2019 outreach plan
- Determine what to do with the PG County EJ Commission
- Continue to work on the survey for the legislators
- Recruitment of Commissioners

### **Mapping Out the 2019 Outreach Plan**

- Joseph feels as though more works needs to be done especially after listening to Tamara's presentation.
- If MDEHN has done most of the work it may be a good idea for the Commission to latch on to the MDEHN plan instead of creating a totally new outreach plan.
- Joseph mentioned an important piece identifying who will do the work once the plan is developed.

- Malachy Rice said let's just amplify the work that's already done.
- It was suggested that maybe a Senator or House Delegate could assign a staffer to look into the survey suggestion, or maybe Delegate Robyn Lewis or Senator Clarence Lam could help.
- The question of conflict of interest was addressed by the Commission's lawyer she didn't see any possible conflicts.

**Meeting Adjourned**