

Town of North Beach  
Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, October 4, 2022  
7 PM at Town Hall and on Zoom

Attendees: Elizabeth Lawton, Guy Stone, Lisa Garrett, Jeff Noyes, Herb Wolff. Guest: Kristi Uunila

Agenda and discussion: This meeting focused on reviewing the 2024 Sustainable Maryland recertification goals. A quorum was present.

2024 Sustainable Maryland Projects

- Elizabeth explained that this will be her last meeting as EC liaison. Herb will take over the management of the Sustainable MD status spreadsheet. Elizabeth will still be working on 3 of the individual projects, but will not be leading the effort.
- Elizabeth explained that the 9 projects listed on the spreadsheet are those with the highest potential to be completed by December, meaning that all information regarding the completion of these projects will be ready for upload to the Sustainable MD website. Worst case, they'd be ready by the end of 1Q 2023. She reiterated that old information must first be entirely deleted from the system before the new can be uploaded. These 9 projects will qualify NB for a bronze certification.
- There are 10 additional projects in the spreadsheet that *may* not be completed as they are not resourced. For example, it is too early to tell if the work the flood committee is doing will be resourced and completed in time to meet the SM submission deadline. These projects could potentially earn NB silver certification.
- Elizabeth reviewed the 9 projects:
  - Green Team Training (5 points): Lisa will arrange for the training for EC members. This training can be done via Zoom.
  - Fall Transplant Sale (10 points): Chesapeake's Bounty (Veronica) & Lisa will work towards holding this event in the Spring.
  - Health & Wellness Innovative Demo (50 points) – needs a program plan – will likely slip until 1Q 2023. This one is particularly important, being worth 50 points, but also because the plan will guide many future projects.
  - Tree City (15 points): completed
  - Waste Reduction Program, Recycle Campaign (10 points) – Door hang tags are designed, but they need to be printed. Single use plastic guidance has been published and shared with NB residents. The next focus area is metals, as not all can be recycled. She discussed that Town Council has some ideas about collecting other recycling types and selling them ourselves, but these innovative ideas need to be worked through before being acted upon. She added that the real problem is accountability, but there are currently no consequences to non-compliance, so it is difficult to achieve success. Later in the meeting, Elizabeth shared the image of how the door hang tags will look;

- the tag includes a QR code that will take the resident directly to single use plastic guidance.
- Historic Preservation Innovative Demo (50 points) – Kristi Uunila provided background info on the program
    - NB had a Historic Preservation Commission at one time
    - 4 homes designated
    - 1 resident asked to be de-designated due to concerns about being able to sell their house, and that drove an end to the program
    - The NB comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances continued to promote historic preservation of the original NB cottages and other buildings from 1900.
    - Calvert County Historic District Commission took over duties of reviewing any changes to those 3 remaining properties, as well as any new requests for designation in NB. Final ruling still falls to Mayor and NB Town Council
    - Homes with historic designation are eligible for up to 25% tax credit on work to preserve exteriors of those homes, with rollover of up to 4 years if the credit exceeds the homeowner's tax liability
    - Kristi has retired from the position of liaison for Historic Preservation to Calvert County; Chris Sperling is current liaison. Kristi can be a resource to help NB with the demo project as necessary.
    - Kristi explained that the point of historical preservation is to preserve the property. Property designation is a zoning overlay; de-designation is intended to not be easy.
  - Bike Friendly Community (15 points) – Stacy has lead – she intends to work on this in the next few months.
  - Nat'l Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat (10 points) – Lisa did not have any updates on this as she has been working other projects
  - Wetlands Green Infrastructure Innovative Demo (50 points) –
    - Elizabeth provided information from her attendance of StormCon 2022
    - The conference had tracks for Best Business Practices, Green Infrastructure, Industrial Stormwater Management and Flood Mitigation (among others) from which a comprehensive approach can be built for stormwater management.
    - Prince Georges County demo'd 6 of their projects, done through public-private partnerships. She made some contacts with experts in creating these successful partnerships, including contractors willing to come out and make recommendations for Burnt Oaks and San Francisco. First contractor will come October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned

The next Environmental Committee meeting will be November 1, 2022.