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Annapolis Conservancy Board
January 9, 2020

The Annapolis Conservancy Board (ACB) of the City of Annapolis held its regularly scheduled meeting on January 9, 2020 at the Pip Moyer Recreation Center, 273 Hilltop Lane, Conference Room 3. **Chair** Ogburn called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Commissioners Present: **Chair** Ogburn, **Vice Chair** Hosmer, Jennings, McFall, Lippert

Commissioners Absent: Fynes, Houser

Staff Present: Guild, Adams, Dr. Nash, Borchers

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 12, 2019 and November 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Jennings moved to approve the September 12, 2019 and November 14, 2019 meeting minutes as revised. **Vice Chair** Hosmer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 5-0.

III. CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ELECTIONS

Ms. McFall moved to nominate **Chair** Ogburn to continue to serve as Chair and **Vice Chair** Hosmer to continue to serve as Vice Chair. Mr. Lippert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 5-0.

IV. ANNUAL REPORT - 2019

Chair Ogburn asked for a volunteer to draft the 2019 Annual Report and Ms. McFall volunteered to prepare a draft for the ACB to review. Ms. Jennings agreed to assist with the attendance record portion of the report.

V. IDENTIFYING GOALS AND STRATEGIES FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Chair Ogburn provided background on the Comprehensive Plan update process explaining that at the December 2, 2019 Chairs of all the Boards and Commissions meeting, the ACB was tasked with identifying goals relative to the ACB's function and accompanying strategies for achieving those goals.

Dr. Nash added that there will be a reconvening of the Chairs of all the Boards and Commissions on February 20th to review the goals and strategies established at this point along with the performance measure to regulate whether the City is successful in implementing those goals. She will also be meeting with Civic and Homeowner's Associations on February 23rd in order to solicit participants to serve on a workgroup who will be tasked with working on the plan update on a regular basis. There will be surveys and online tools to be used as well. She responded to questions regarding the sector study recommendations noting that those sector study recommendations that are eligible will be included in the new Comprehensive Plan. She clarified that the timeline for completion is anticipated to be next year. There was an open discussion regarding possible goals and strategies for the Comprehensive Plan and several suggestions were made.

The ACB considered the following goals for discussion at the next meeting.

Goal #1 would be safeguarding existing open green spaces for recreation/aesthetics and strategies for accomplishing this goal would be to complete the Greenway Plan, finalize the MOU with City and County, and determine how best to use existing City space;

Goal #2 would be enhanced coordination between City Departments and Boards/Commissions to better use resources and strategies for achieving this goal could consist of quarterly meetings between Boards/Commissions and staff.

The ACB agreed to send Dr. Nash the information gathered on the Greenway Plan and a copy of the draft MOU for the POS funding.

Village at Providence Point

Ms. Guild explained that there is a conservation easement that was annexed by the City on the Village at Providence Point property and conservation for additional forest. It was suggested by a number of groups that it be treated as one conservation easement and that the Scenic River Land Trust should hold the easement because their sole focus is conserving property.

Ms. McFall moved that the Scenic River Land Trust hold the conservation easement on the Village at Providence Point property rather than the City. Ms. Jennings seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

In response to a request from the ACB regarding receiving the development plans where conservation easements are proposed, Dr. Nash suggested that the ACB work through Mr. Adams to request copies of all the development applications that have proposed conservation easement or open space requirements and those that trigger Forest Conservation Act (FCA). The ACB was amenable to the suggestion. **Vice Chair** Hosmer asked for clarification specifically if there is anything outside of those projects that trigger FCA that could require a conservation easement. Mr. Adams agreed to check into this and report back.

VI. PROGRESS MADE ON GREENWAY PLAN AND EASEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Chair Ogburn, **Vice Chair** Hosmer and Ms. Jennings met several times regarding the progress on the Greenway Plan and Easement opportunities. Ms. Jennings explained that the subgroup divided the City up into three (3) segments so that each member of the subgroup could review for potential properties that could be targeted for conservation and those that could lend to possible connections, as well as who owns the properties. The met to share findings with the intent identifying all of the properties found so that they could be placed in a GIS layers so the City can have a comprehensive map of the properties that could be targeted for conservation providing a proactive tool as development occurs. **Vice Chair** Hosmer added that the properties were also reviewed to determine if there was an opportunity to connect to the Mayor's West East Express/Defining the Path (WEE). **Chair** Ogburn briefly discussed the items that require additional research.

Chair Ogburn agreed to send out the link to Ms. Wampler's interactive map along with other resources and agreed to share which third of the City that each of the subgroup members reviewed. She will be requesting a clean copy of the map with the easements, City owned parcels and parcel boundaries so the ACB can do further review.

VII. UPDATES

a. Funds for Boundary Surveys

There was no report.

b. MET Easements

There was no report.

c. MOU with the County

There was no report.

d. Climate Resiliency Workgroup

Chair Ogburn updated the ACB on the Climate Resiliency workgroup progress explaining that a draft report was provided for review. Dr. Nash added that the workgroup has given the Mayor a draft that require additional information that the Workgroup will finalize and once finalized, it will go to the group as well as stakeholders that were identified so it should be another month before the final is available

e. Waterways Cabinet – Next Meeting

Chair Ogburn announced that the next Waterways Cabinet meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2020 at 10:00am in City Council Chambers.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business, Mr. Lippert moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39pm.

Vice Chair Hosmer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote 5-0.

Tami Hook, Recorder