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## **Annapolis Environmental Commission**

July 9, 2020

The Annapolis Environmental Commission (AEC) held its regularly scheduled meeting on July 9, 2020 as a virtual meeting. **Chair** Buchheister called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

**Members Present:** **Chair** Buchheister, **Vice-Chair** Giblin, Stephenson, O'Leary, Rowel, Bohanan

**Members Absent:** Turgeon, Murphy

**Staff Present:** J. Guild, R. Hodo, J. Braithwaite

### **II. REGULAR BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMISSION**

**Chair** Buchheister suggested that the AEC not hold an August meeting and all remaining members were in agreement.

#### **ACTION ITEMS FROM THE JUNE 3, 2020 MEETING**

The AEC discussed the status and follow-up on the action items from the June 3, 2020 meeting as noted:

- Critical Area Commission: Ms. Bohanan believe that some of the loopholes need to be closed because there is too much discretion **so will follow-up with the Critical Area Commission;**
- Public Works Facility Update: Ms. Stephenson reported that groundbreaking is anticipated for early Spring/Summer of next year but the plans should be available this Fall. Ms. Guild added that Mr. Johnson, the new Public Works Director, will be expected to go over funding and design options when he comes onboard. **The AEC agreed to meet to finalize the letter on July 15, 2020; Ms. Guild agreed to invite Ms. McKeown to the September 2, 2020 meeting to give an update on the Public Works Facility and other Capital Improvement Projects that Ms. Guild identified.**
- Watershed Restoration Funds: Ms. Bohanan drafted a letter to the City requesting that they not use Watershed Restoration Funds for the gray infrastructure in the Truxtun Heights community and submitted it through the public comment portal. She also submitted a copy directly to the City Manager, David Jarrell via email. **Ms. Bohanan agreed to follow-up with Ms. Patrick and Ms. McKeown on the status of the letter. She will forward a copy of the letter to Ms. Guild to follow up with these two staff persons as well.**
- Comprehensive Plan: **Chair Buchheister agreed to schedule a meeting to review/sort the Comprehensive Plan input with subcommittee members.**

### **A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **1. February 5, March 4 and June 3, 2020, Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Stephenson moved to approve the February 5, March 4, and June 3, 2020 meeting minutes as revised. **Vice Chair** Giblin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 6-0.

### III. DEVELOPMENT

#### **A. Truxtun Heights Stormwater Project – CIP Funds and Watershed Funds**

This was addressed under Action Items from the June 3, 2020 meeting.

#### **B. Public Access to the Waterfront**

**Chair Buchheister agreed to follow up with Mr. Trader to determine whether there is access to the Waterworks Park Trails** and she briefly discussed public access in Ward 6 referring to a goat path which is not an improved pathway to the water noting an interest in looking into grant funding to improve these types of paths. Mr. Rowel also agreed to work with **Chair Buchheister** on public access to the water. She noted that there is another issue relating to the South Annapolis Yacht Center (SAYC) in that they are withdrawing the condition relating to public access placed on the application by the Planning Commission. **Ms. Bohanan agreed to draft a letter to the Mayor, City Manager, with a carbon copy to Dr. Nash, Tom Smith and the Office of Law about public access to SAYC to share with the AEC prior to sending. Mr. Rowel agreed to share an article titled “AAC School Teacher advocates for Environmental Social Justice.”**

Ms. Bohanan moved to send a letter expressing that the AEC is in strong support of public access at the SAYC site which is consistent with the Mayor’s One Annapolis initiative and request the Planning and Zoning to enforce the public access requirements that were stipulated by the Planning Commission as a condition of approval. Ms. Stephenson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 6-0.

#### **C. Providence Point (formerly Crystal Springs) Application**

**Chair Buchheister** noted that the discussion at the last meeting implied that the applicant was interested in building out as well as have an escape clause in the restrictions on the building. She received a call from their attorney who indicated that the applicant intends to build up in height and not out in footprint. Mr. Smith will also share his comments on the forest conservation plan for this project that she will share with the AEC once she receives it. **The AEC will ask Mr. Turgeon to review the easement language to ensure that the language indicates they are building up and not out is clear. The AEC will follow up on this.**

#### **D. Public Works Building – Update on the Plan for Stormwater/Salt Dome/Sust.&Resil Practices**

This was addressed under Action Items from June 3, 2020 meeting.

#### **E. Clean Vehicles for Annapolis Fleet**

Ms. Guild had a conversation with the Fleet Manager regarding the number of clean/electric vehicles that can be purchased this year and there will be a report to City Council on the inventory of the fleet specifically on which will be aging out and could be replaced. She will report on the benefits, cost/maintenance savings and environmental quality at his meeting. **Chair Buchheister** suggested that Ms. Guild mention partnering with other jurisdictions regarding purchasing these vehicles.

### IV. LEGISLATION

#### **A. Deputy City Manager, Resil. & Sustain.: Charter Amendment CA-120/Ordinance #O-20-20**

Ms. Guild noted that this legislation is moving through the various committees and will be on the City Council July 13, 2020 agenda but there will not be a vote because a number of other commissions still need to review it. **Vice Chair Giblin agreed to attend the Environmental Matters Committee meeting on July 15, 2020 on behalf of AEC.**

#### **B. Stormwater Fee – PW/Stantec Report**

Ms. Guild reported the Stormwater Fee was approved in the budget with annual increases to the fee. The intent is to make the stormwater fee more equitable. **The AEC will follow up with Ms. McKeown.**

**V. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – AEC INPUT**

This was addressed under Action Items from June 3, 2020 meeting.

**VI. OTHER ISSUES/UPDATES**

**A. Composting proposal for old City Landfill**

**Chair** Buchheister reported that this project was included in the CIP and there should be a report in September 2, 2020.

**B. Developments**

Ms. Hodo distributed the development listing and the AEC agreed to review as well as follow-up with questions. **Chair** Buchheister asked about the Parole Place project asking if the FSD was received and it was noted that the FCA is still under review. **Chair Buchheister will contact Mr. Smith regarding the status of the FCA plan and the Kiddie Academy Project. Mr. O’Leary agreed to assist Chair Buchheister in reviewing the development listing.**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business, Ms. Stephenson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm. **Vice Chair** Giblin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 7-0.

**The next AEC meeting is Wednesday, September 2, 2020, at 7:00 pm at 145 Gorman Street.**

Tami Hook, Recorder