

Environment Committee Meeting Minutes

7:00 pm, Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Skype on-line & dial-in session

[Join Skype Meeting](#)

[\(703\) 935-2811](#) Conference ID: 54196695

Call to Order/Welcome – Flint Webb Co-Chair

Start 7:00 PM

There were not sufficient members to constitute a quorum.

Administrative Topics – New web site and e-mail:

1. Future meetings: Flint Webb will be canceling the June meeting and will send out a doodle poll to find out what nights will work best for folks going forward.
2. The new Environment Committee Chair e-mail is Environment@FairfaxFederation.org.
3. There will be a new new web site but it will just replace the current web site (<http://fairfaxfederation.org/>) but it will look very different. It is not clear when the switch-over will occur but it will be soon.
4. We are looking for someone to take over for Ned Poffenberger on the Engineering Standard Review Committee.

New Business –

1. PFAS in Drinking Water Membership meeting: PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) have been found in Fairfax County drinking water at concentrations in excess of Environmental Working Group (EWG) guidelines levels (5.5 ppb). Our May 27th Membership meeting will be dealing with this issue. Fairfax Water has requested that they go first and then they would leave and let EWG to take the floor. The plan is to give Fairfax Water 20 minutes to make their presentation and then 10 minutes for Q&A followed by the EWG for with a 20-minute presentation and 10 minutes for Q&A. We will also be holding elections of officers for next year so there is a hard stop after 1 hour. For additional information about this issue see:
 - a. For information about PFAS chemicals see: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/basic-information-pfas>.
 - b. For information about PFAS in Fairfax County drinking water see: <https://www.fairfaxwater.org/water-quality/facts-about-pfas> or <https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/local/virginia/forever-chemicals-pfas-found-in-northern-virginia-tap-water/65-7d778d3c-7e94-4574-a3a0-c4726130b60d>.
 - c. For information about EWG and PFAS see: <https://www.ewg.org/research/national-pfas-testing/>.
2. Resilient Fairfax: Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan (CARP): Fairfax County is starting the process of developing the CARP. The first meeting was held on May 5th. The recording for the May 5th meeting is at [https://www.ebmcdn.net/fairfax/fairfax-cable-viewer-cc-r-embed.php?viewnode=Resilient Ffx CommAdvisory Group CAG Kickoff](https://www.ebmcdn.net/fairfax/fairfax-cable-viewer-cc-r-embed.php?viewnode=Resilient%20Ffx%20CommAdvisory%20Group%20CAG%20Kickoff). They are

re-branding the program to “Resilient Fairfax” but the initial step is to develop the CARP and then they will use the Resilient Fairfax for tracking and follow-up. The web page is: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/environment-energy-coordination/resilient-fairfax>. Since the Community Advisory Group is advising the Office of Environment and Energy Coordination rather than a political body it is not open to FOIA.

3. CECAP Status report (Ana Prados, Ph.D. indicated that she will not be able to attend): The link to the CECAP materials is: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/environment-energy-coordination/public-engagement-cecap?link_id=0&can_id=8f92dbc2f64cdf9c2c4a377488925cd0&source=email-action-alert-fairfax-climate-action-plan-survey-is-open&email_referrer=email_903194&email_subject=action-alert-fairfax-climate-action-plan-survey-is-open. The OEEC has been holding meetings with the Fairfax County business community (including Leidos). They have focused on 9 strategies:
 - a. Increase energy efficiency and conservation in existing buildings
 - b. Pursue beneficial electrification in existing buildings
 - c. Implement green building standards for new buildings
 - d. Increase renewable energy in the grid
 - e. Increase production of onsite renewable energy
 - f. Increase energy supply from renewable natural gas (RNG), hydrogen, and power-to-gas (the idea is to create natural gas with renewable electricity).
 - g. Increase electric vehicle adoption
 - h. Support efficient land use, active transportation demand management to reduce vehicle miles traveled
 - i. Increase fuel economy and use of low carbon fuels for transportation.These strategies are all well and good, but there is no real plan to implement them. How are they going to ...? There was a public feedback meeting last night and another one tomorrow 7-8:30 pm.
4. A&WMA BW chapter meeting: The Baltimore Washington Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) is organizing a virtual meeting to compare and contrast the methodologies used by Fairfax County and Montgomery County in developing their County Community GhG reduction plans. The link to the meeting is: [Click here to join the meeting](#).
5. Agrotourism: Is this an issue we should be concerned about.
6. Other topics?

Old Business – Any developments in these areas?

1. Environmental Justice (EJ):
2. Fairfax Peaks:
3. Public Facilities Manual (PFM) changes (Ned Poffenberger):
4. Composting Toilets:
5. Zmod:
6. County Budget:
7. River Farm:
8. Environment Virginia Symposium:
9. Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC) at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG):

Next Meetings –

Board Meeting: May 20th – Virtual. (Tomorrow)

Membership meeting: May 27th – Virtual (PFAS in drinking water and Officer Elections)

Environment Committee: None planned.

Citizen of the Year Banquet: September 24th