Maryland Commission on Climate Change
Steering Committee Meeting – Notes
April 28, 2016 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

In attendance: Tad Aburn, Lori Arguelles, Don Boesch, Susan Payne, Matt Fleming, Megan, Lisa, and Chris B. from MDE

On the phone: Stuart Clarke, Mike Powell, Lynn Heller, Richard D’Amato, Jim Doyle, Chris Hoagland, Susan Brogan, Tom Walz

1. Welcome and Introductions

   Reminder: MCCC roster be shuffled a bit to comply with law (no major changes)

2. Old Business

   Update on Membership
   - Lisa provided update on roster: currently mostly just coordination happening
     - MACCO, MLL, and Critical Areas to have official spot on roster
     - Coordinating with Senate/House for nominee(s)
     - Somewhat less flexible structure under new law
     - Additions: 2 philanthropic, 2 labor
     - No “at large” members
   - Don B. to provide a few names of experts on public health and climate change, respectively

   Update on By-Laws
   - Lisa has received comments on individual sections, and 2/3 voting issues
   - Proposal: assemble small group to discuss by-laws and make recommendations to Steering Committee by 5/26/16
   - Current roster of “small group”: Sue Briggham, Susan Brogan, Dick D’Amato, Tad

   Update on Town Creek Funding
   - Stuart: Updates will come from Dave Nemazie, UMCES, in the future
   - RFP document completed by 3rd week of May
   - Receive proposals 3 weeks later
   - Review proposals by mid-June
   - Responses by full MCCC in June
   - Disperse funds in July
   - Need to have an end-date (deadline) for proposals – no rolling submission period
   - UMCES will administer under firm deadline
   - MCCC Website being considered for funding

3. Standing Reports

Working Committee Reports

• Education, Communication, and Outreach Working Group
o Need a better communication platform
o Climate Change Website – (existing or new)
o Outreach and public listening sessions not well timed in 2015
o Need feedback from SC on topics for outreach and public listening sessions
o What is the end-game for 2016 MCCC report?
o Website is a potential place for the Town Creek funds
o Need to determine what the goals are for website
  - Public info (resource for stakeholders)
  - Internal business (resource for MCCC)
  - Both?
o Does MDE have the resources to both internal communication and outreach as required by the law? - No
o MCCC has more flexibility as an independent group compared to MDE relative to content on website
o 40% by 2030 should remain the guiding principle
o Need to educate the public about goals
o MCCC Report
  - When will public input be most useful?
  - When to schedule listening sessions?
  - What does report construct look like? – need to know ASAP
o Proposal: Listening sessions be poster-sessions with a variety of content and outreach happens in small groups at session
o Proposal: an ECO group co-chair be appointed to assist Lori
o Key to MCCC continued success is the partner with the legislative branch - General Assembly reps during outreach
o MCCC briefings to General Assembly were necessary and useful. Session does consume time, but that won’t change

• **Scientific and Technical Working Group**
  o Organizing talent to help ECO communicate complex issues
  o Doing the work on climate impact assessments
    - Sea level rise
    - CC and Bay restoration (mid-point assessment of TMDLs)
    - Methane
      - Petroleum industry need to be involved – need balance
      - Proposal to move fwd on MCCC Agenda – need to review
      - Don will brief MWG if Methane moved fwd – MDE follow-up

• **Adaptation and Response Working Group**
  o See approved work-plan
  o June meeting scheduled
  o Economy and impacts analysis on agenda
    - Presentation from SHA on CC and infrastructure resilience
    - Presentation from NOAA – storm impacts
  o Developing 2-yr performance metrics

• **Mitigation Working Group**
  o Last meeting focused on Environmental Justice (EJ) and Equity
  o Enhancing tools internally (MDE)
    - Multi-pollutant analysis
- Economic impacts
- Building social justice and EJ into analysis of all programs
- 3-year economic look-back with real data
  - MDE scheduling update from panelists at last meeting
  - Reminder: all MCCC members invited to participate in MWG meetings
  - MWG trying to find time to discuss presentations at meetings
  - Priorities: EJ issues and Methane

4. New Business and Summary

- 6/20 MCCC meeting agenda – Steering Committee to set/discuss on 5/26
  - Membership
  - By-laws
  - Update from Working Groups
  - Methane
  - Economic/Social Justice Issues
- Proposal: EJ to be discussed before Methane
- Proposal: add 2016 MCCC Report structure and content
- Methane discussion should occur in MWG before MCCC
- Need to keep Adaptation and Resilience issues on agenda
- Proposal: a sub-committee from Steering Committee to frame discussion of 2016 MCCC report
- Proposal: MDE + DNR draft outline of MCCC report and share with Steering Committee
- Sequestration and the Bay issues need to be added to MWG work plan
- Proposal: another SC call or SC meeting prior to 5/26 to discuss MCCC report

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45am