

Commission on Environmental Justice & Sustainable Communities (CEJSC)
Montgomery Park, Baltimore, MD
Aeris Conference Room
April 24, 2018
9:30 am-11:30 am

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

- **Commissioners:** Subha Chandar (phone), Joseph Griffiths, Camille Burke, Crystal Faison, Dick Fairbanks, Janet Moyer Cornick, John Papagni (phone), John Quinn (phone), Duane Johnson, Steve Levitsky (phone), Lesliam Qcala (phone).
- **Participants:** Stephanie Cobb-Williams, Jeaneen Maxwell

Introduction

Camille Burke started the meeting by welcoming everyone and asking everyone to introduce themselves.

March meeting minutes were approved with corrections.

- Janet Moyer Cornick's name was corrected
- Dick mentioned the Commission never met in Brandywine as the minutes indicated

Old Business Updates

- Crystal Faison provided a working definition of Equity:

Equity is the universal fair and impartial treatment of all individuals regardless of geographic location and socioeconomic status. It is the altruistic guide that incorporates the following in decision-making:

- Land use and development will not compromise the health of vulnerable communities
- Permitting, construction, as well as - diversion permits shall not compromise (or jeopardize) clean air, water, and food
- Construction development that affects and reshapes a community shall incorporate economic development strategies to limit gentrification.

Duane will send the definition out to the Commissioners.

Subha suggested including social determinants of health in the equity definition.

John Papagni suggested including in the equity definition some overarching principles as it relates to the environment.

Crystal asked the Commissioners to submit bullet points on their ideas for equity.

- Dick Fairbanks said he didn't have any additional updates concerning MACo. He said Les Knapp is interested in collaborating with the Commission-and he will have a more comprehensive update at the next meeting.
- Joseph Griffiths said he hasn't really done much on the outreach plan being that he's been busy with his job reaching out to all 23 counties.
 - He suggested that before any outreach plan can be developed the Commission needs to decide what the goal is-what the communication around outreach is, what people need to be involved and why; and what the Commission wants to get out of the outreach.
 - Joseph said the Commission needs to develop materials for marketing the outreach and to talk about purpose- what will the Commission do with the feedback?
 - Finally, how will the Commission further engage the folks they first engaged by outreach? Is it going to be by a survey or at regional meetings?
 - Joseph said when it comes to actual outreach getting people to the table his department has extensive contacts and could provide support. But since his department is working on a similar outreach program he didn't want to confuse his folks.
 - Who should the direct message come from?
 - Who would be sending out the material out and setting up any meetings?
 - Finally, who would be the voice doing the outreach, is it the actual Commission?

Joseph will look at the one pager produced by MDE EJ 101 and develop what he thinks would be some good messaging and share it the next meeting.

Subha Chandar asked if it was anything in the Baltimore case study around equity Camille said she would revisit the case study to see.

Joseph said he can look at the notes for the twelve counties his agency looked at for any environmental justice components that may apply.

- Steve Levitsky said he plans on having- the Eastern Shore case study completed by the end of May.

New Business

- Camille mentioned the May 22nd meeting with the Children's Environmental Health Protection Advisory Council (CEHPAC) and asked Commissioners to submit idea's for the agenda within the next week or so.
- Camille asked the Commissioners for recommendations for additional locations for future meetings and the retreat. Crystal said she will take on this task.

- Camille indicated that HB0183 Prince George's County's bill to create their EJ Commission passed.
 - John Papagni said it passed in both the House and Senate unanimously.
 - The PG County Commission will consist of all the County's representatives based somewhat around the structure of CEJSC.
 - Camille said she will consider writing a letter to the PG County folks letting them know that CEJSC would like to partner with them on specific issues.
- Subha said she will send the Complete Streets info to Camille.
- Subha suggested inviting the Health in All Policies Committee to a CEJSC meeting or to the retreat.
- Dick asked about any contact with MML in the past- Duane said he and Rebecca met them once to talk about a partnership.

No Public Comments

Meeting Adjourned