



PATUXENT RIVER COMMISSION

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☀ Please call Daniel Rosen at MDP 410-767-4577 if you have any questions or comments.

Larry Hogan, Governor
Councilman Michael Leszcz, Co-Chairman
Christopher Perry, Vice Chairman

We, the Patuxent River Commission, envision a Patuxent River ecosystem as vital and productive in 2050 as it was in the 1950s. We therefore commit to be stewards and advocates for the Patuxent River and to lead and inspire actions to protect, enhance, and restore living resources and the natural, cultural, economic, and recreational values of the Patuxent River and its watershed.

MEETING SUMMARY

February 13, 2019

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Annapolis, MD

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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- Members:** Michael Leszcz, Chair; Christopher Perry, Vice-Chair; Erik Michelsen, Joanna Smith, Martin Chandler, Mark Symborski, Katina Shoulars, Al Tucker, Andrew Der, Barbara Sollner-Webb, Scott Knoche, Luis Dieguez, Matt Rowe, Jason Dubow
- Attendees:** Frank Dawson, Jeff White, Melissa Chatham, Zhenghua Jin, Udeni Leanage, Paul Cucuzzella
- Staff:** Jason Dubow, Deborah Herr Cornwell, Daniel Rosen

Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Minutes from January 9, 2019 meeting were approved.

Updates

Biennial Report

The draft report was completed, and the document is being coordinated with MDP's Communications Division; final report will be submitted to the Governor's office on March 15.

Request to Governor Hogan

As directed by the Commission, a draft letter was prepared requesting Governor Hogan to host a PRC meeting.

Presentations

Western Branch Restoration Plan

Joanna Smith, Principal Engineer with Prince George's County Department of the Environment provided an update on the Western Branch project; the study was completed in 2018. The watershed study will be shared with the PRC and can be posted on the website.

Prince George's County Resource Conservation Plan Update

Katina Shoulars, Supervisor, M-NCPPC Environmental Planning Section presented an update on the 2017 update of the 2005 Resource Conservation Plan and the county's laws and regulations that help to protect forests and other environmentally sensitive areas as development occurs. Prince George's County has a very successful tree banking program with about 500 acres currently available. Other counties have struggled with establishing a mitigation bank. Prince George's County succeeds in part due to a high fee-in-lieu and restrictions on the types of development that cannot use fees-in-lieu.

TMDL for Bacteria in the Lower Patuxent River

Zhenghua Jin, MDE provided a presentation of the Bacteria TMDL, noting the public comment period ends on February 14.

Settlement at Savage Mill Update; Draft Protocol for Development Project Review

Barbara Sollner-Webb provided background on the Settlement at Savage Mill project and noted that the Savage Community Association is asking that the PRC send a letter to the Howard County Executive and Council. Erik Michelsen requested that a representative from Howard County Planning and Zoning, familiar with the project, present project information to the PRC. Issues of specific interest were implications of a land swap on Program Open Space and Land and Water Conservation Fund funding opportunities. Jason Dubow suggested that the Commission could review and finalize a development project review protocol before taking action on the project.

Open Floor

Items for the March meeting agenda include:

- Commission Protocol for reviewing projects
- Annual Action Plan
- Montgomery County Presentation