

ECO Working Group Meeting Minutes May 18, 2016

The meeting was convened at 10:30 at the Maryland Department of the Environment by the Working Group Chair, Lori Arguelles.

Attending in person: Mark Shaffer (MDE), Lisa Nissley (MDE), Liz Entwisle (MDE), Allison Rich (MD Environmental Health Network).

Attending by phone: Lori Arguelles (Ferguson Foundation), Michelle Peterson (Honeywell), Jason Schellhardt (MDA), Sara Luell (DHCD), Samantha Kappalman (The Hatcher Group).

Welcome and opening remarks. Lori convened the meeting and members introduced themselves.

Funding proposal update and discussion. There was discussion about developing a funding proposal for UMCES's anticipated RFP to support the work of the Commission's working groups. Lisa Nissley reported that she is working to streamline and improve internal Commission and working group communications through monthly newsletters, listserv lists and other existing tools, obviating the need to include this in the funding request. Members identified the following funding priorities: 1) migrate content from the Commission's landing page on the MDE website, and from the Climate Communication Consortium and RenewMD websites (funding for both discontinued after 5/31/16), to climatechange.maryland.gov; 2) enable MDE to maintain this website and associated social media communication in consultation with ECO and the Commission Steering Committee; 3) write the 2016 Commission report; 4) hold public outreach meetings in 2017; and 5) conduct media outreach. Allison Rich, Samantha Kappalman and Lori volunteered to draft the funding proposal.

George Mason University climate opinion surveys. Liz Entwisle reported that Karen Akerlof, principal investigator in GMU's three-year Maryland climate opinion survey project that informed the messaging of the Climate Communication Consortium, was available to present survey findings to ECO and other working groups in a webinar format. Meeting attendees expressed their interest and Liz agreed to work with Karen to arrange a briefing.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:40.