

**CITY OF WINCHESTER
NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD**

October 28, 2010

Winchester City Yards Conference Room

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES & ACTION ITEMS

- I. Board Chair Dave Worthington welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. In attendance were Gerald Crowell, Dave Worthington, Jim Lawrence, and Jim Giraytys.

- II. The minutes from the meeting on September 30, 2010 were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes by Jim Lawrence, seconded with revisions by Gerald Crowell. Approved by a 4-0 vote.

- III. Status of No-Mow Ordinance:

David Worthington asked Tom Hoy if he had any comments on the No-Mow Ordinance. Tom Hoy said he had no comments and that he thought it was a good ordinance. Tom Hoy recommended that two of the Natural Resources Advisory Board members meet with Milt McInturff, a councilman, and share with him all the necessary information so it can get into council.

- IV. Valley Air Now Update:
 - a) Jim Giraytys showed a bar graph of the number of days per year Frederick County was out of compliance with the eight hour ozone standard. Tom Hoy asked if the City of Winchester was included in the Frederick County information. Jim Giraytys said that the city is included and actually there is only one gauge at the rest stop that they go off of. Jim Giraytys said that the graph only shows the days where the eight hour ozone standard exceeds. Gerald Crowell asked Jim Giraytys about this year's ozone and why there were not more days that were out of compliance with the ozone standard. Jim Giraytys said that there was more of an agricultural drought because the high temperatures did not last months like other years. Tom Hoy asked Jim Giraytys what can be done to improve the program. Jim Giraytys said he has different levels of ideas. He said that in four years both Frederick County and the City of Winchester contributed \$75,000 in a fund to manage the Valley Air Now program, however, last year Winchester did not contribute, due to the budget, but Frederick County did. His primary recommendation is to put \$10,000 in for the next calendar year to assist in the outreach and education program, which was deemed as the most effective thing that was done. Jim Giraytys said that he would draft the Valley Air Now support letter within the next couple days. Tom Hoy recommended that Jim Giraytys show in the letter what the Valley Air Now program could do with different budgets and the projected results of each one and send the letter to Jim O'Connor.

V. Abrams Creek Wetlands Preserve/Shawnee Springs:

- a) Dave Worthington mentioned that Woody Bousquet was going to draft a letter to Brad Veach about the Natural Resources Advisory Board assuming the advisory role on these two reserves and advise the city on what maintenance and what actions should be taken.

VI. Old Issues:

Jim Lawrence said that there are some opportunities to do some more projects in Friendship Park with the Virginia Tech grant. Jim Lawrence spoke with Brad Veach and he said his guys are pleased that they do not have to mow the area and currently there have not been any complaints. Dave Worthington asked Jim Lawrence if there is anything that the Natural Resources Advisory Board could do to help and Jim Lawrence said if the board is interested in doing a demonstration project he could talk to Kelly Henshaw, the City Engineer. Gerald Crowell asked Jim Lawrence if there was any advantage to having a sign in Friendship Park and Jim Lawrence said that would be a good thing to do right off the bat. He said that one could be put in Whittier Park and the other in Friendship Park.

VII. Action items were assigned for the November meeting.

VIII. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 18, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Yards Conference Room. The possible date of the December meeting will be decided at the November meeting.

IX. Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

NO.	ACTION ITEM:	ASSIGNED TO:	TARGET DATE:	STATUS:
1	Have 2 members of the Natural Resources Advisory Board meet with Milt McInturff about the No-Mow Ordinance	Dave Worthington and Jim Lawrence	11-2-10	
2	Draft Valley Air Now support letter	Jim Giraytys		
3	Email draft thank you letter for Vince Diem for the No-Mow Ordinance	Dave Worthington		
4	Work on sign designs for Whittier and Friendship Park	Jim Lawrence		
5	Pilot Project: Write a letter to Tim Youmans concerning The Comp Plan and how to get the air quality and no-mow information in the plan and what the status is.	Dave Worthington and all NRAB members		
6	Let NRAB know about new method Shenandoah Valley Electric has for protecting the power lines.	Gerald Crowell		