



**Board of Directors
Virtual
September 19, 2024**

Present:

Olivia Achuko, DOEE
Gary Allen, Center for Chesapeake Communities
Naomi Cohen-Shields, DDOT
Angela Conroy, VDEQ
Lushae Cook, Pepco
Bob Erdman, EVADC
Hosein Foroutan, Virginia Tech
Tracye Funn, Washington Gas
Dawn Hawkins-Hixon, Prince George's County
Heidi Mitter, VDOT
Brian O'Malley, CMTA
Hannah Pekalski, VDOT
Jennifer Raley, SMECO
Kelsey Sisko, MDE
Justin Smith, MDE
Kari Snyder, MDOT
Mike Sowko, NWS
Michael Taylor, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
Janiece Timmons, WMATA
Glenna Tinney, Citizen Representative
Kudret Utebay, ICF
Jed Weeks, Bikemore

Staff:

Regina Aris, BMC
Adrienne Dealy, Sherry Matthews
Jen Desimone, Clean Air Partners/MWCOG
Jami Hill, Sherry Matthews
Kenna Swift, Sherry Matthews
Elizabeth Spike, Clean Air Partners

Call to Order: Jennifer Raley called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Clean Air Partners Updates: Jen Desimone

Jen introduced the following new members to the Board:

- Michael Taylor – NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
- Hosein Foroutan – Virginia Tech

- Lushae Cook - Pepco
- Naomi Cohen-Shields – DDOT
- Hannah Pekalski – VDOT

This fall we will be surveying residents on their perceptions and attitudes on regional air quality. Our Public Awareness survey is conducted every three years. The results are used to inform the development of future work programs and program initiatives and provide a mechanism to report success to program funders and sponsors. Through the RFP process, OpinionWorks was selected as the vendor – they have worked with Clean Air Partners on the past two surveys. This summer, the Marketing Committee finalized the questionnaire, which will be released this month. The Board can expect to see results in early 2025.

Nomination of Members and Officers: Jen Desimone

The following new member was nominated:

- Mark Edelson, Maryland House of Delegates

A motion was made to accept the slate of nominees. After a second motion, the Board approved the slate of members.

Education Program Updates: Elizabeth Spike

Elizabeth provided an update on Education Program activities.

Activities included:

- Kicked-off second cohort of lead teachers, including holding information sessions and training (13 active lead teachers).
- Conference, Tabling and other Outreach:
 - PGCPs Student Environmental Action Summit
 - Howard County Conservancy Youth Climate Institute
 - MD Green School Youth Summit
 - Earth Educators Rendezvous
 - On the Air NIMBY EJ Training
 - 11th Street Bridge Park – AQ Presentation
 - VDOE Earth Science Standard Committee
 - New AQ Education Work Group
 - CEEJH EJ Symposium
 - Mobilize Frederick
 - Outreach to regional science district specialists
 - NASA Stella AQ Community
- Upcoming Outreach:
 - NAAEE Conference
 - VAST Conference
 - AGU Conference

2024 Summer Campaign: Kenna Swift, Sherry Matthews

Sherry Matthews provided a recap on the 2024 summer initiatives that included the following.

- Air Quality Awareness Week & Gas-Powered Lawn Tool Exchange – Held the backyard bubble/lawn tool exchange. Held 3 events at ACE Hardware stores, including 6 days of exchanges of 150 electric tools.

Results include over 204,000 impressions, over 13,000 engagements, 16 news stories, and over \$9 million in publicity value.

- Owned Social Content – Included posts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter/X, and NextDoor and newsletter mailing resulting in nearly 30,000 impressions and 13,000 engagements.
- Partner Engagement – 19 partners shared or engaged with Clean Air Partners content.
- Ozone Action Month – Included pop-up, eco-driving event, and media pitching. Partnered with Commuter Connections to promote Car Free Day. Results include over 2,000 impressions, 1,300 engagements, and 200 Car Free Day pledges.

Regional Tree Planting Initiatives: Kelsey Sisko, MDE and Kenna Swift, Sherry Matthews

MDE and Clean Air Partners staff provided an update on regional tree planting initiatives. The tree plantings will take place in environmental justice communities.

MDE Tree Planting – Partnering with the Baltimore Tree Trust, the tree planting will take place in November in the Curtis Bay community (along high truck traffic areas and adjacent to the CSX coal terminal). There will also be an open community event in Curtis Bay Park.

Clean Air Partners Tree Plantings – Partnering with Casey Tress on two tree planting events during October, including one in Hyattsville (October 12) and one in DC (October 5). Forty trees will be planted at each event. Events will also include outreach incorporating air quality messaging in flyers, emails, infocards, and event registration sites. Planning is also underway for a Baltimore event that will take place during spring 2025.

Other Business:

Bob Erdman, EVADC, announced that National Drive Electric Week is September 27 – October 6. The first event in the Washington region is Saturday, September 21, in Poolesville, MD.

Adjournment: 1:20 pm

Meeting materials can be found at <https://cleanairpartners.net/node/471>.