

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Environmental Quality Task Force

DATE: July 23, 2009

PLACE: Health and Human Services Building

TIME: 9:00 – 10:30 AM

ATTENDEES: Chuck Bates, Rhonda Blanton, Kathy McGaha, Jack Morgan, Teresa Murray, Barry Patterson, Derek Roland, Al Slagle and Wayne Swank

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Barry Patterson welcomed everyone to today’s meeting of the Environmental Quality Task Force. Mr. Patterson asked the task force members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Jack Morgan motioned for the approval of the minutes. Chuck Bates 2 nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Review Process	Kathy McGaha briefly reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. Ms. McGaha stated several topics and issues were covered and discussed. Ms. McGaha stated that this task force did not need to duplicate topics and issues that over committees were already handling.		
Clarify Vision of Task Force	Kathy McGaha next asked the task force members to consider and clarify what the vision of this task force will be. Mr. Patterson stated that he thought the vision of this task force was to educate the general public on environmental issues. After a further group discussion, the task force members agreed that the vision of this task force would be to inform and educate the public about existing environmental issues.		
Brainstorm Areas of Need	Kathy McGaha next asked the task force members to brainstorm areas of need this task force could undertake. Ms. McGaha reviewed the focus areas that were suggested at the last meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Water Quality○ Sedimentation Issues○ Watershed Issues○ Groundwater Contamination○ Water Supply (or lack there of)○ Steep Slopes		

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	<p>After a group discussion, the task force members agreed not to add any other focus areas but combine some of the already suggested ones.</p>		
<p>Prioritize Areas and Begin Planning</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha asked the task force members to prioritize these areas and begin the planning process for them.</p> <p>The following areas of needs were suggested:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Water Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water Quality ▪ Groundwater Contamination ▪ Water Supply ▪ Wastewater ▪ Sedimentation ▪ Solid Waste 2) Safe Slope Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landslide Maps 3) Air Quality <p>The task force members also suggested the following strategies to develop these areas of needs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Task Force members to maintain connection between other groups and committees 2) Invite media participation 3) Review for public consumption 4) Advocating for public participation 		
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha next asked the task force members to consider the next steps for this task force to pursue. The task force members agreed on the following suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Task Force members will gather feedback from other local committees and groups and report on this feedback at the next meeting 2) Develop action steps – at the next meeting the task force will further discuss and develop action steps 		

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Other Items for Discussion	Other Items for Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Wayne Swank invited everyone to attend the celebration on Saturday for the 75th Anniversary of Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory.		
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Environmental Quality Task Force will be held on Wednesday, September 2 nd , from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM in Meeting Rooms A/B at the Health and Human Services Building.		

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