

Minutes from meeting of MET's Lands Committee
Wednesday August 28, 2024
1:00 pm

Attending Committee Members: C. Highfield, G. Burnett, M. Benjamin, A. Jones, N. Ziegler
Attending MET Staff: J. Turgeon, J. Markline, K. Bull, M. Ludington, L. Paterini
Attending OAG: T. Kovacs

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 1 pm

Agenda Item 1. Review Minutes from Last Meeting

- Ann Jones moved to accept minutes, Megan Benjamin seconded the motion.

Agenda Item 2. Stewardship Program

a) Stewardship Program Updates: J. Markline provided the following updates:

- L. Paterini assisted DoIT with a presentation about the ESRI based Monitoring Application at the Towson University GIS conference on August 8.
- K. Bull has been handling some heavy violations and has been working with our partners to get them resolved. It is slow to get things completely mitigated, but now that he has drafted some detailed violations procedures, we are keeping better timetables with getting resolution. The finalized enforcement policy and procedures will be forthcoming for approval.
- K. Bull and former Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps member J. Pinkney completed a Forest Stand Delineation on one of the MET's three fee simple properties, located on Marshall Hall Road in Charles County. They identified the 16-acre property as a healthy wetland forest with many beneficial ecosystem services.
- J. Markline attended the Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps Graduation ceremony on Aug 14 with J. Pinkney who moved on from working with MET to a permanent job as a Planner I with the Cecil County Planning and Zoning Division. He is doing well.

b) Landowner request for easement 0724DON02.BACO

- J. Markline presented the item. A. Jones moved to approve and place the item on the Consent Agenda. M. Benjamin seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted to put it on the BOT Consent Agenda. C. Highfield requested that staff ensure that invasives be kept out of the revegetation of the buffer by providing the landowner with resources for planting programs.

c) Landowner request for easement 0316SHA95.WASH

- K. Bull presented the item. N. Ziegler moved to approve and place the item on the Consent Agenda. G. Burnett seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted to put it on the BOT Consent Agenda. C. Highfield requested that staff send buffer enhancement resources to the landowner for the waterway that runs through the property.

Agenda Item 3. Easement Program

a) Easement Program Update: M. Ludington provided the following updates:

b) Easement Pipeline Report

- a. 10 total Easements in the pipeline
 - i. 3 likely to be recorded this calendar year
 - ii. 4 nearing end stages, completion date 2025
 - iii. 2 awaiting approvals (one membership, one attorney)
 - iv. 1 in beginning stages

Agenda Item 4. Conservation Easement Projects

- a) MET Model Deed of Conservation Easement- Revision
 - M. Ludington presented the revision. A. Jones moved to approve and place the revision on the BOT Consent Agenda. G. Burnett seconded the motion. **The Committee unanimously voted to put it on the Consent Agenda.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.