Members Present
Sally LaBarre, Roland Beckman, Michael Charlton, Paul Gartelmann, Dennis Kirkwood, Lynn Faulkner

Ex-officio Members Present
Terry Hanley, Adam Lanphear, Dan Furman, Jeff Schoenberger

Guests
Mr. Howard Eakes and Ms. Amanda Subolefsky, Harford Glen Environmental Education Center

Welcome / Introductions

Sally LaBarre welcomed the EAB. Everyone introduced themselves.

Review and Approval of the April 2025 Meeting Summary

The April 2025 meeting summary was approved.

Presentation by Mr. Howard Eakes and Ms. Amanda Subolefsky, Harford Glen Environmental Education Center

Next Generation Science Standards
- Harford County Public Schools are part of the Maryland Association for Environmental & Outdoor Education (MAEOE)
- Designed to equip students with scientific knowledge and skills needed in a science and technology-driven world.
- Aim to create scientifically literate citizens.
- Maryland-adopted K–12 science content standards:
  - Define what students should know and be able to do.
  - Ensure a continuous and coherent learning progression across grade levels.

Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences
- Second Grade:
  - Project on school campus
  - Field trips to sites like Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, Eden Mill, Harford Glen, Maritime Museum, Marshy Point
  - Teacher's choice option
- Fifth Grade:
  - Environmental stewardship unit
  - Harford Glen overnight residential program
  - Campus-based project
- Seventh Grade:

- o Project on school campus
  - o Similar field trip options as second grade
  - o Teacher's choice
- High School:
  - o Campus-based project
  - o Teacher's choice
  - o Field trips to environmental sites
- Students can participate in stream mapping and propose names to the County Executive.
- Harford Glen is open Saturdays and Sundays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and daily after the last day of school.
- The center serves as both an educational facility and a public park.

Harford Glen Residential Outdoor Education Program
- Serves all 5th graders in the County (with parental permission).
  - o 92% of students attend; 88% stay overnight (3 days, 2 nights).
- Facilities were built in the late 1990s and are modern.
- Hosted 2,800 students this year.
- Students can return in high school as counselors.
- Activities include harvesting garden vegetables and bird-focused programming.
- Program funded by Harford County Public Schools.
  - o Meals supported by HCPS and a $10.50/day parent contribution.
  - o Annual budget exceeds $1 million.
  - o Teachers receive $250 per overnight and are paid for all hours.
  - o On-site staff include a nurse, custodians, and teachers.
- Other Maryland counties with similar programs: Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Carroll.
- A $14,000 grant will support greenhouse construction.
- The program is a model statewide; frequently toured by other jurisdictions.
- Parents do not attend overnight but may participate in one of eleven annual open houses, which are well attended.
- Concerns addressed include food allergies and overnight logistics (e.g., bedwetting).
- No recent budget cuts. Increases have only covered stipends and tree removal.
- Wish List:
  - o Repair Harkins Pier
  - o Construct a bridge to improve water flow
  - o Address sediment buildup and endangered species concerns at Atkisson Dam (under review by the Army)

Environmental-Themed High School Courses Offered
- Earth & Environmental Systems
- Geohazards
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Science
- Wildlife Management
- Marine Science
- Zoology
- Biology (required)
- AP Environmental Science
- Earth Science

Additional Highlights

- Thirteen community partners were recognized for their support and involvement.
- Green School support is provided to 21 Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) that have achieved Green School status, with continued assistance available for future applicants.
- The Harford County Envirothon team earned third place in a national competition.
- Outreach events were highlighted, including:
  - North Harford Elementary Agriculture Night
  - Arbor Day tree plantings and seedling giveaway
  - Bluegill Bash
- Annual celebrations include:
  - Green Teacher of the Year
  - Environmental Scholarship
  - Envirothon
- Future goals include:
  - Expanding schoolwide sustainability initiatives
  - Fostering environmental literacy among students
  - Promoting outdoor and experiential learning opportunities

Departmental Updates

Mr. Lanphear reported that the Health Department Director John is in discussion with Council and Anne Arundel County about rabies alerts. There is County concern about rabies levels because of more reporting. They are working on proposing a rabies prevention program. The overall goal is to lower rabies levels in the County by vaccinating wild animals.

Mr. Schoenberger from the Department of Public Works reported that there was a household hazardous waste event held Saturday, May 10. The HHW had 186 customers with 5.4 tons. The shredding event had 76 customers and 3.25 tons. They were out of compost for a few weeks but have some available now for residential customers at a 1 cy limit. No commercial sales are available currently. Mulch is available to residential and commercial customers with no limit. The annual noxious weed meeting was held May 13.

Mr. Hanley from Parks and Recreation reported that Harford County Climate Action invasive vine cutting event had over 60 attendants including many location organizations. They will continue to make a concentrated effort on this. The lower greenways Susquehanna heritage trail is moving forward with a feasibility study to extend the lower trail. The eel ladder at Eden Mill will soon be under construction.

Mr. Furman from Planning & Zoning reported that Comprehensive Rezoning is complete. The County Council introduced and approved 9 amendments to the zoning map. The Department is in the beginning stages of looking at how to update the Master and Land Use Plan.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.