

RMC Legislative Committee
Monday, November 19, 2018
3:00pm-4:00pm
Conference Call
Meeting Minutes

Participants:

Lindsay Thompson, Co-Chair
Odette Ramos, Co-Chair
Bill Christopher
Senator Adelaide Eckardt
Kurt Fuchs
Josh Hastings

Carol Masden
Steve McHenry
Don Mulrine
Greg Padgham
Mike Pennington
Alice Settle-Raskin

RMC Staff:

Charlotte Davis, Executive Director
Meredith Donaho, Program Administrator
Amanda Clevenger, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:02 pm.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from the April 2, 2018 Legislative Committee were shared. Co-Chair Thompson requested changes and approval of the minutes. No changes were requested. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Steve McHenry; the motion was seconded by Kurt Fuchs. All were in favor, and the April 2, 2018 Legislative Committee meeting minutes were unanimously accepted.

2019 Draft Legislative Priorities

Copies of the 2019 draft legislative priorities were shared. The language in the priorities will be updated when the FY2020 budget is made available. For 2019, a section that includes the policy recommendations provided by the Task Force for Rural Broadband has been added, and an education section that includes a statement on the Kirwan Commission and its recommendations will be added.

Suggestions were made to include a more generalized statement to support rural education funding in the education section, and that the RMC looks forward to the policy recommendations set forth by the Kirwan Commission. It was also suggested that the language for supporting the creation of the Community Development Fund be changed to support continued funding for the Community Development Fund. More revisions to the draft priorities will be made, and will be shared at a meeting in December to finalize.

Legislative Committee Dates

An overview of the Legislative Committee dates and times were shared. The Welcome Breakfast for Rural Legislators is scheduled for January 18th 7am-10am at the Maryland Inn in Annapolis. Rural Maryland Day is scheduled for February 14, 2019 at the Maryland General Assembly and will be co-hosted with the Maryland Association for Soil Conservation Districts and the Maryland Dairy Association.

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A meeting poll will be shared with committee members to schedule a date in December to finalize the 2019 legislative priorities.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:43 pm.

Next meeting: December 2018, TBD