

RMC Legislative Committee
Monday, December 17, 2018
3:00pm-4:00pm
Conference Call
Meeting Minutes

Participants:

Lindsay Thompson, Co-Chair
Odette Ramos, Co-Chair
Delegate Andrew Cassilly
Kelly Dudeck
Kurt Fuchs
John Hartline
Steve McHenry

Don Mulrine
Greg Padgham
Mike Pennington
Alice Settle-Raskin
Shannon Reed
Scott Warner
Lara Wilson

RMC Staff:

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

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:01 pm.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from the November 19, 2018 Legislative Committee were shared. Co-Chair Thompson requested changes and approval of the minutes. No changes were requested. The meeting minutes from November 19, 2018 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 and the priorities will be finalized and approved at the next meeting.

Suggestions included changing “mental health” in the health care section to “behavioral” health to encompass substance abuse and addiction. A suggestion was also made to include a bullet point under the community development section to address ensuring Opportunity Zone funding is distributed to rural areas. These changes will be incorporated and shared in an updated version in January.

Rural Maryland Day Update

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. The West I and II Presidents Conference Room in the Senate Miller Building have been secured and sponsored by Senator Hershey.

RMC Legislative Committee
Minutes – December 17, 2018 Meeting

New Business

Maryland No Kid Hungry – Summer SNAP for Children

A flier was shared on behalf of Maryland No Kid Hungry to support the Summer SNAP for Children program. Maryland No Kid Hungry requested the Rural Maryland Council to sign a petition to help support the program. There was concern that there is no funding source identified to support the program. It is expected that a task force will be put together this coming session to address Summer SNAP and nutrition programs.

Updates

Delegate Cassilly shared that he will be co-sponsoring legislation with Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo to move the pilot program for the growth of industrial hemp to full scale implementation this coming session.

It is also expected that the upcoming session will include issues related to increasing the renewable portfolio and increasing solar which could cause conflict with the agriculture community.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:25 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, January 14, 2019, 3pm-4pm, Conference Call