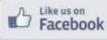
From: Sent: Subject: mail.admin@finksburg.org Wednesday, October 25, 2017 2:37 PM FPACC: Finksburg News: October 2017

## **Finksburg Planning and Citizens' Council Inc.** Community Meeting – Commissioner Weaver



Who: All residents of Finksburg and its environs are invited When: October 26, 2017, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM Where: Finksburg Branch, Carroll County Public Library

General Membership Meeting 10/26/17: Commissioner Weaver
 Commissioner Weaver to attend Finksburg Planning and Citizens' Council Inc. Meeting.
 Citizens are invited to attend a meeting to hear "What's Happening in Carroll".
 This is a wonderful opportunity to ask questions, share your concerns, thoughts and ideas.
 Commissioner Weaver will be available to discuss items of general interest to the community. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/1488603344563665">https://www.facebook.com/events/1488603344563665</a>

Carroll County to Apply for Finksburg to be Designated a Sustainable Community The planning staff of Carroll County government invited Finksburg residents and local area businesses to participate in a work group to apply for Finksburg to be designated as a Maryland Sustainable Community. The work group met for the first time on June 12, 2017, and continues to meet monthly. Mount Zion Church serves as the host for the meeting.

Nokomis Ford, Planning Technician, and Andrea Gerhard, Comprehensive Planner, both from Carroll County government, are leading the meetings.

The Sustainable Communities Program is an initiative of the State of Maryland that offers various benefits to designated communities. The program seeks to improve the quality of life in designated communities by offering a toolbox of financing programs and tax credit incentives. There is no downside to the Sustainable Communities designation – it does not limit business or property owners in any way – and it can help provide partial funding for various projects. All incorporated towns in Carroll County already have this designation. Once designated, businesses and residents in a small area of Finksburg (a 600-acre region surrounding the old village of Finksburg) would be able to access a variety of state programs including:

- Support for projects that make the community more attractive to businesses
- Grants for renovation, energy efficiency, and acquisition for public benefit

- Support for businesses, including job creation tax credits
- Homeowner incentives to reduce vacancies
- Green improvements, lighting, streetscapes, and signage
- Strategic demolition of derelict buildings
- Financing to rehabilitate older properties

The work group has been asked to assist with elements of the application, including quality of life, economy, transportation, and housing issues, and coming up with ideas for improving the community over the next five years. The group will continue to meet until the application is submitted in February 2018. More information on the program is here: <u>http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/dn/default.aspx</u>

## Further information can be found on our website, <u>http://www.finksburg.org</u>.

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