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CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS

RESOLUTION NO. R-58-89

Introduced by Mayor Hopkins  
Alderman Moyer

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A RESOLUTION concerning

The Severn River Commission

FOR the purpose of reestablishing the Severn River Commission;  
and all matters relating to said Commission.

WHEREAS, in 1971, the General Assembly of the State of Maryland recognized that the Severn River is notable for fine scenery and its rich historic heritage, for its many ecologically important sites, and for varied recreational opportunities, and consequently designated the Severn River as one of Maryland's "Scenic Rivers"; and

WHEREAS, the policy established for the State's Scenic rivers is to preserve and protect the natural values for these rivers, enhance the water quality, and fulfill vital conservation purposes by wise use of resources within the surrounding environment; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, the Severn River Advisory Board in conjunction with the Scenic Rivers Staff of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources completed a study of the Severn River entitled "Maryland Scenic Rivers: The Severn"; and

WHEREAS, the study proposes several recommendations as to how the Severn's natural, scenic, and cultural heritage may be protected; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, a study entitled "A Greenway Strategy for Weems Creek", conducted by the National Park Service in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Weems Creek Conservancy, presents a resource inventory and analysis and sets forth options for alternative management strategies for the conservation of Weems Creek; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the Anne Arundel County Council adopted the General Development Plan which established the policy of protecting and enhancing the scenic qualities of the Severn River; and

1           WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis has within its boundaries  
2 approximately eighteen miles of waterfront along the Severn River  
3 and its tributaries which constitute an environmental resource of  
4 inestimable value to County and City residents and visitors to  
5 the area; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, in 1984, the General Assembly created the  
8 Chesapeake Bay Area Protection Program to protect the natural  
9 habitats and water quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its  
10 tributaries, which include the Severn River; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, Section 8-403(g) of the Natural Resources Article  
13 of the Maryland Annotated Code provides that a political  
14 subdivision may establish a scenic river advisory board to  
15 further the aims of the Scenic and Wild Rivers Act; and  
16

17           WHEREAS, the formation of an advisory board to provide  
18 counsel and advice on the stewardship of the Severn River  
19 watershed in accord with the Act, the studies, and the plans, is  
20 a goal which is mutually desirable to the City of Annapolis and  
21 to Anne Arundel County, Maryland; and  
22

23           WHEREAS, the Annapolis City Council adopted Resolution  
24 R-55-84 Revised on November 19, 1984 establishing the Severn  
25 River Commission; and  
26

27           WHEREAS, the Resolution shall stand repealed on December  
28 31, 1989, unless readopted by the City Council.  
29

30           WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis further desires to cite  
31 other commissions and agencies, created by the authority of the  
32 charter and Code of the City of Annapolis, whose duties are  
33 related to issues of conservation of open space, preservation of  
34 wildlife, and the protection of the Severn River and those  
35 tributaries of the Severn River and Chesapeake Bay that lie  
36 within the corporate boundaries of the City of Annapolis, and in  
37 citing those commissions and agencies, clearly provide that the  
38 power and duties hereby granted to the Severn River Commission  
39 do not supercede, and shall not be superior to, the powers and  
40 duties of those other city created commissions and agencies; and  
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42           WHEREAS, those other commissions and agencies include, but  
43 are not limited to, the Annapolis Conservancy Board, the  
44 Environmental Commission and the Board of Port Wardens.  
45

46           NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL  
47 that the Severn River Commission be and is hereby reestablished.  
48 For the purposes of defining the jurisdiction of the Commission,  
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1 the boundaries of the Severn River shall include the entire  
2 watershed, and the boundaries defined in the Anne Arundel County  
3 Watershed Management Program as shown on the map to this  
4 Resolution and made a part hereof.  
5

6 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL**  
7 that the purpose and membership of the Commission shall be as  
8 follows:  
9

10 A. The Commission shall provide counsel and advice to Anne  
11 Arundel County, the City of Annapolis, and the State of Maryland.  
12 The duties of the Commission shall be:  
13

14 1. To adopt policies, procedures and bylaws governing the  
15 conduct of business and the mandatory attendance requirements of  
16 its membership.  
17

18 2. To prepare a written biannual report outlining the  
19 activities, goals and accomplishments of the Commission. This  
20 report shall be submitted to both the Anne Arundel County Council  
21 and the Annapolis City Council in January.  
22

23 3. To include as part of its biannual report a completed  
24 review and recommendations concerning the implementation of the  
25 studies entitled "Maryland Scenic River: The Severn" and "A  
26 Greenway Strategy for Weems Creek".  
27

28 4. To initiate and recommend policies and regulations to  
29 enhance and protect the natural, historic and scenic quality of  
30 the Severn River watershed.  
31

32 5. To review studies, policies, and rules formulated by  
33 federal, state and local government agencies that concern the  
34 Severn River watershed, and to comment on such proposals as  
35 appropriate.  
36

37 6. To review and make recommendations concerning the  
38 implementation of the studies entitled the "Maryland Scenic  
39 River: The Severn" and "A Greenway Strategy for Weems Creek".  
40

41 7. To review and make recommendations on federal, state,  
42 county and local programs, regulations, and public and private  
43 projects, including land use and development proposals, which the  
44 Commission believes may have an impact on the Severn River  
45 Watershed.  
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1 B. Membership.  
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3 1. The membership of the Commission shall consist of nine  
4 voting members and six or more ex officio, nonvoting members.  
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6 2. The County Executive, in consultation with the Mayor of  
7 the City of Annapolis, shall appoint a Chairman from among the  
8 nine voting members.  
9

10 3. Members shall serve for a term of three years from the  
11 date of appointment.  
12

13 4. A majority of the voting members shall constitute a  
14 quorum.  
15

16 5. Members shall serve without compensation.  
17

18 6. If a vacancy occurs, the new appointment shall be made  
19 in the manner described herein for the position vacated and for  
20 the balance of the unexpired term of the preceding member.  
21

22 C. Voting Members.  
23

24 1. Subject to the confirmation by the City Council, the  
25 Mayor of the City of Annapolis shall appoint two City residents  
26 as members.  
27

28 2. Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the  
29 County Executive shall appoint seven members. Of the seven  
30 members, at least five shall be residents of the Severn River  
31 watershed.  
32

33 D. Ex Officio, Nonvoting Members.  
34

35 1. The County Executive, in consultation with the Chair of  
36 the County Council, shall appoint a County Councilman to serve  
37 "ex officio".  
38

39 2. The Mayor of the City of Annapolis shall appoint a  
40 member of the Annapolis City Council to serve "ex officio".  
41

42 3. In consultation with the Mayor of the City of  
43 Annapolis, the County Executive shall invite a member of the  
44 Maryland State Senate and a member of the House of Delegates,  
45 each representative of the Severn River watershed, to serve "ex  
46 officio".  
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1           4. The County Executive shall invite the Secretary of the  
2 Department of Natural Resources, Secretary of the Maryland  
3 Department of the Environment and any other State agency deemed  
4 appropriate, to appoint a representative to serve "ex officio".  
5

6           5. The ex-officio, non-voting members of the Commission  
7 from the County Council, City Council, and State Senate and House  
8 of Delegates shall be rotated annually through elected officials  
9 from the Severn River watershed, unless the incumbent wishes to  
10 continue to serve and has met the attendance requirements  
11 established for voting members.  
12

13           E. This resolution shall not limit the ability or  
14 participation of Commission members to serve as appointed or  
15 volunteer members of the Severn River Land Trust or the Anne  
16 Arundel Conservation Trust or such other organizations as the  
17 County Executive or Mayor may deem appropriate.  
18

19           F. Upon the recommendation and request of the County  
20 Executive, the Severn River Commission shall serve in a full  
21 advisory capacity to the Severn River Land Trust and the Anne  
22 Arundel Conservation Trust.  
23

24           G. Subject to the appropriation of funds, the County and  
25 the City shall provide professional and technical staff  
26 assistance to the Commission in performance of its duties.  
27


28           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that  
29 this Resolution shall become effective from and after the date  
30 upon which a substantially similar and essentially compatible  
31 resolution is adopted by the Anne Arundel County Council, and  
32 thereafter shall remain in effect so long as the County's similar  
33 and compatible resolution shall remain in effect.  
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35           **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL**  
36 that the power and duties hereby granted to the Severn River  
37 Commission do not supercede, and shall not be superior to, the  
38 powers and duties of those other city created commissions and  
39 agencies, including, but not limited to, the Annapolis  
40 Conservancy Board, the Environmental Commission and the Board of  
41 Port Wardens.  
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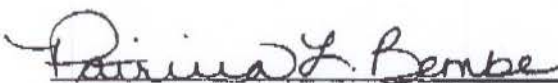
43           **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL**  
44 that the individuals who are members of the Commission at the  
45 time this Resolution takes effect shall remain members for the  
46 balance of the terms to which they are appointed.  
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ADOPTED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1989.

THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL

BY:   
ALFRED A. HOPKINS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
Patricia L. Bembe, CMC/AE  
City Clerk

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