

SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2013 – 4:00 P.M.
Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4th Floor

		Attendance Record
Members Present:	Lina Vlavianos, Chair	2/2
	Sally Hornor, Vice Chair	2/2
	Amy Clements	2/2
	Tom Lindsay	2/2
	Michael Robinson	2/2
	Kurt Riegel	1/2
	Jeff Schomig	2/2
	Dick Spencer	1/2
	Bob Whitcomb	2/2
	Diane Jennings for Councilman Ladd (Ex officio)	2/2
Guests and Staff:	Brenda Weeks, ACo. DPW/WERS	
Members Absent:	Scott Hymes, MD DNR (Ex officio)	1/2

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vlavianos called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was declared present.

PUBLIC INPUT / AGENDA ITEMS – There was no public input.

MINUTES

The Minutes for the January 3, 2013, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval. The minutes were approved as written.

MOTION: A MOTION, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 3, 2013, REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION, WAS MADE BY WHITCOMB AND SECONDED BY HORNOR. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

CORRESPONDENCE / ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Dick Spencer was introduced to and welcomed by Commission members as the new county appointed voting member to fill the vacancy left by Joe Rubino. A letter was received from the County Executive appointing Spencer to SRC for a 3-year term that expires January 31, 2016.

2. A letter was received from the County Executive reappointing Vlavianos to SRC for a 3-year term that expires January 31, 2016.
3. The Chair reported she is in the process of writing the 2011-2012 biennial report. SRC is charged with preparing a written report every two years outlining the activities, goals and accomplishments of the Commission to be submitted to both the County Council and the Annapolis City Council. A draft of the report will be forwarded to members for comments and/or corrections before distribution.
4. On behalf of the Commission, Riegel received a response from Annapolis City Mayor Cohen to SRC's inquiries about the status of the City pursuing the establishment of a No Discharge Zone (NDZ) designation within City waters. Mayor Cohen supports establishing an NDZ for all City waters and has established an internal task force to evaluate the merits of such a zone.
5. Hymes notified the Chair that he would not be able to attend this meeting.

COUNCILMAN TRUMBAUER

At the invitation of the Commission, Councilman Chris Trumbauer was present at the meeting where he gave an overview/history, explained/clarified details and responded to numerous questions regarding Critical Area Bill 93-12 and the proposed stormwater utility bill.

OLD BUSINESS

Stormwater Utility Bill

After a brief discussion, Commission members agreed to strongly support the proposed stormwater utility bill. It was noted that this bill will create a dedicated source of funds to correct deficiencies in existing systems, and to support necessary administrative and inspection staff. With input from commission members, Spencer will draft a letter of support to be sent to the County Council.

MOTION: A MOTION, THAT SRC SUPPORTS PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSED STORMWATER UTILITY BILL, WAS MADE BY CLEMENTS AND SECONDED BY HORNOR. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Jabez/SHA

Vlavianos reported she will be attending a meeting with the County Department of Public Works and State Highway Administration to discuss potential restoration projects in the Jabez watershed.

Critical Area

Following a brief discussion, SRC members expressed their support for Bill 93-12. They feel it will enhance the ability of both the County government and citizens to meet the objectives of Maryland's critical area mandate. Schomig will write a letter of support to County Council to be sent immediately.

MOTION: A MOTION, THAT SRC SUPPORTS PASSAGE OF BILL 93-12, WAS MADE BY SCHOMIG AND SECONDED BY RIEGEL. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Annapolis

Riegel called SRC's attention to concerns about the Crystal Spring project and its effects on the City, the watersheds and the Severn River. He will keep SRC updated.

Oyster Restoration Activities – There was nothing new to report.

Slag – This item will be removed from the monthly agenda.

Septics – There was nothing new to report.

Annapolis Marine Water Quality

The letter from Mayor Cohen regarding the No Discharge Zone was addressed earlier in the meeting.

Website – Robinson noted the membership list will be updated.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Vice Chair

Following a brief discussion, Hornor was re-elected Vice Chair for 2013.

MOTION: A MOTION, TO ELECT SALLY HORNOR AS VICE CHAIR OF THE SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION, WAS MADE BY CLEMENTS AND SECONDED BY ROBINSON. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Picture Spring Branch

During a walk of Picture Spring Branch, Robinson and Whitcomb discovered a large area behind Domino's Pizza has been cleared. At the suggestion of the County Department of Public Works, Whitcomb will contact the County Office of Planning and Zoning for specifics.

SAV Surveys

Honor reported that the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in their annual SAV survey of the watershed for 2012 shows the SAV acreage stayed constant this year in the Severn. The most recent survey for the Magothy shows no SAV. For those interested, the state of the Magothy meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2013.

PUBLIC INPUT/NEW ITEMS – There was no public input.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room (4th Floor), 2664 Riva Road.