

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**September 5, 2013 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

	<b>Attendance Record</b>
<b>Members Present:</b>	
Lina Vlavianos, Chair	7/9
Sally Hornor, Vice Chair	9/9
Jim Burdick	1/1
Michael Robinson	8/9
Jeff Schomig (via conference call)	8/9
Dick Spencer	8/9
Bob Whitcomb	8/9
<b>Guests and Staff:</b>	
Dave Cordle, County Executive's Chief of Staff	
Brenda Weeks, AACo. DPW/WERS	
<b>Members Absent:</b>	
Tom Lindsay	7/9
Kurt Riegel	4/9
Scott Hymes, MD DNR (Ex officio)	6/9

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Vlavianos called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:04 p.m. in the Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was declared present. Lindsay, Riegel and Hymes were not present.

In response to an invitation to the County Executive to attend the September SRC meeting, Dave Cordle, the County Executive's Chief of Staff, was present representing the County Executive.

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

**MINUTES**

The Minutes for the August 1, 2013, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval. Following discussion, members agreed to revise the August 1, 2013 minutes to exclude personal comments on Councilman Ladd's resignation letter. The revised minutes will be presented for approval at the October meeting.

MOTION: A MOTION, TO REVISE THE AUGUST 1, 2013 MINUTES TO EXCLUDE PERSONAL DISCUSSION ON COUNCILMAN LADD'S RESIGNATION LETTER, WAS MADE BY WHITCOMB AND SECONDED BY BURDICK. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE REVISED MINUTES WILL BE PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL AT THE NEXT SRC MEETING.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Jim Burdick was introduced and welcomed. He is the new SRC member appointed by the Mayor as a representative of the City of Annapolis to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Amy Clements.
2. Margaret McHale, State Critical Area Commission (CAC), will address the new Critical Area (CA) legislation at the October meeting.
3. Hornor reported that although she has not received Trumbauer's final decision, he may decide to represent the County Council on the SRC with his aide attending most of the monthly meetings.
4. SRC received correspondence from Dr. Kenneth Green of SusDev Tech, LLC requesting assistance with perceived problems of U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) development at Greenbury Point. Spencer volunteered to respond directly to Dr. Green's letter pointing out some misinformation on the part of the citizenry.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Stormwater Management on Severn Run**

With the Odenton Town Center roads under construction, Commission members expressed concern that the roads and future buildings creating extensive impervious surfaces will impact Severn Run. SRC has no information whether the current stormwater management regulations apply to the project, or how stormwater management will be implemented. Members also questioned the time line for the development of the Town Center. Dave Cordle offered to make inquiries and get back to Vlavianos.

Also tied into the Odenton Town Center discussion on stormwater management, problems were raised on Warfield Branch of the Jabez. Robinson and other interested parties walked the area along Warfield Branch and reported that a particular wetland is about to be washed away as a result of uncontrolled flows and scouring of stream banks. Although the State Highway Administration (SHA) has studied the problems resulting

from uncontrolled runoff from their roads, SHA's response to resolve the problems is lacking. Vlavianos will call SHA to clarify how and when the 2007 plan will be implemented and to gather any other information.

In summary SRC members feel the problems on Severn Run are the result of uncontrolled stormwater runoff resulting from compounded sources. Considering the extent of the problems and the many stakeholders involved, Schomig will draft for internal circulation a letter to the County Executive pointing out the problems on Severn Run, which has become a "culvert" for stormwater runoff; how the runoff is impacting the Severn River; that no single entity is responsible for the problems; that the cumulative effects of created problems need cooperation of SHA, DNR, MDE and the County; and suggest that the county be a vehicle to bring all parties together to understand the problems and work together to resolve them. The draft letter will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Annapolis / Annapolis Marine Water Quality**

Burdick reported that the Spa Creek Conservancy has received a \$38,000 grant for mitigation.

Weems Creek had a sewage spill in May and the high bacterial levels have persisted throughout the summer.

Burdick will contact Riegel for a briefing and update on the Annapolis "marine no discharge zone."

### **Oyster Restoration Activities**

Whitcomb reported spat distribution is scheduled for September 12. One thousand-three hundred cages are involved amounting to more cages than any other river on the Bay. More groups have signed on as volunteers this year than in previous years including the Annapolis Yacht Club.

### **Critical Area**

As noted under Announcements, Margaret McHale (CAC) will attend the October SRC meeting to discuss Critical Area legislation.

**Jabez/SHA** – This item was discussed under Stormwater Management in Severn Run.

**Website**

Robinson will update the website with new member information. As requested, he is also planning to include new photos starting with some positives—impressive living shorelines.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A suggestion was made to invite Pierre Henkart to a meeting to address the chemistry of the Severn.

Concerns were expressed about how to approach improving overall water quality, other than the TMDLs, as there are many other pollution sources that need to be addressed.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 3, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room (4<sup>th</sup> Floor), 2664 Riva Road.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Weeks  
AACounty DPW, Bureau of Engineering  
Watershed, Ecosystem & Restoration Services