

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**April 3, 2014 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

	<b>Attendance Record</b>
<b>Members Present:</b>	
Lina Vlavianos, Chair	4/4
Sally Hornor, Vice Chair	4/4
Jim Burdick	3/4
Kevin Curran	3/4
Kurt Riegel	3/4
Michael Robinson	4/4
Dick Spencer	3/4
Bob Whitcomb	4/4
<b>Guests and Staff:</b>	
Barbara Beelar, Friends of Deep Creek Lake	
Sara Phillips, USNA Architect	
Joe Rubino, USNA	
Brenda Weeks, AACo. DPW/WERS	
<b>Members Absent:</b>	
Jeff Schomig	3/4
Scott Hymes, MD DNR (Ex officio)	2/4

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Vlavianos called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:10 p.m. in the Severn Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was present.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Former SRC member Joe Rubino, Deputy for Finance/Chief Financial Officer, and Sara Phillips, USNA Executive Architect, both with the U. S. Naval Academy, were present to discuss environmental activities in progress at the Naval Academy and Greenberry Point. Ms. Phillips noted the focus is on two guidelines for development: (1) low impact development and (2) BMPs addressing stormwater management and water run-off. Development includes a Cyber Security Studies building, a Commissary, a major upgrade to the wastewater treatment plant and installation /construction of storm water control BMPs. A “mitigation bank” has been established to allow limited future development by designating natural areas to remove invasive species and re-plant with native species.

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

**MINUTES**

The Minutes for the March 6, 2014, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval and were accepted as written.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 6, 2014 MINUTES AS WRITTEN, WAS MADE BY SPENCER AND SECONDED BY HORNOR. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

- (1) A copy of the most recently available organization chart for Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works (DPW) was distributed to SRC members at their request.
- (2) There was no new correspondence.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Ethics Commission / Bylaw Change**

It was noted Schomig is in contact with Councilman Ladd's office to request information on behalf of SRC from the Anne Arundel County (AAC) Office of Law as to how County Council Bill 70-12 affects the SRC. Vlavianos is especially interested in knowing whether SRC is still able to seek advice from the law office immaterial of the fact that SRC members are no longer considered "employees." Based on Bill 70-12, she was made aware the County Ethics Commission will no longer be able to give advice on ethics questions. Schomig reported Ladd's office has not yet responded.

Vlavianos reported the Office of Law did say the SRC Bylaws should be amended by removing the wording linking SRC members to the County and City of Annapolis ethics laws. Since SRC members are no longer considered "employees" they are not bound by ethics law. After some discussion, it was agreed not to change the language in the Bylaws, therefore, maintaining the ethics law standards on all SRC members.

**Jabez / SHA**

Vlavianos was informed by the State Highway Administration (SHA) that a stakeholders meeting on the issues in the Jabez will be held May 12, 2014.

Upon request to SHA by Vlavianos to have an update on progress being made in the Jabez, SHA informed SRC it prefers "the County provide the update which should be after the May stakeholders meeting" since the county is taking the lead in the Jabez Watershed Study as opposed to SHA funding the study. Vlavianos will speak with Erik Michelsen, Watershed Protection and Restoration Program Administrator, to arrange an update.

**Stormwater Management on Severn Run**

Whitcomb continues to see the Severn Run and the problems associated downstream as water volume problems but is in a quandary how to address this.

**Critical Area** – There was nothing new to report at this time.

**Annapolis/Annapolis Marine Water Quality**

Riegel reported the Environmental Commission spoke in front of the City Council regarding the City stormwater utility fund's uses. Although all funds have been directed to legal uses, the Commission feels the uses are not of the highest priority to achieve improvements in water quality. Riegel feels the Aldermen seem to be listening.

Riegel reported a well-attended and useful meeting organized by the Environmental Matters Committee and the Environmental Commission specifically to pool together representatives with interests in the Severn River was not attended by the Mayor despite a promise to be there.

**Oyster Restoration Activities** – There was nothing new to report.

**Website**

Robinson noted he has submitted a number of changes to be posted to the website.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Project Clean Stream**

Whitcomb reported on the preparation for the annual stream cleanup on the Severn River. Picture Spring Branch is the focal point this year.

**Signage**

Commission members feel county signage near county property that abuts waterways and parks should encourage rather than discourage use of public lands (e.g., no trespassing; no parking). DPW will be putting up signs on all Anne Arundel County roads identifying stream crossings naming the stream.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 1, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room (4<sup>th</sup> Floor), 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Weeks  
AACounty DPW, Bureau of Engineering  
Watershed Protection & Restoration Program