

SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2014 – 4:00 P.M.
Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4th Floor

		Attendance Record
Members Present:	Lina Vlavianos, Chair	8/8
	Sally Hornor, Vice Chair	6/8
	Jim Burdick	6/8
	Kevin Curran	7/8
	Kurt Riegel	5/8
	Jeff Schomig (conference call)	7/8
	Dick Spencer	7/8
	Bob Whitcomb	8/8
	Scott Hymes, MD DNR (Ex officio)	3/8
Guests and Staff:	Sheri Lott, AACo. DPW/Heery	
	Brenda Weeks, AACo. DPW/WPRP	
Members Absent:	Michael Robinson	4/8

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, 4th Floor, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was present.

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

MINUTES

The Minutes for the July 10, 2014, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval and were accepted as written.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 10, 2014 MINUTES AS WRITTEN, WAS MADE BY SPENCER AND SECONDED BY CURRAN. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Staff Assistant Brenda Weeks will be retiring October 1. Vlavianos has requested her vacancy be filled for staff support for the SRC.
- (2) Robinson notified the Chair he will not be present at this meeting. Whitcomb noted he will not attend the October meeting due to another commitment.

OLD BUSINESS

Jabez / SHA

The Jabez 3 stakeholders meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 18, 2014. It is not clear if or when a site review meeting will be set up.

Addressing the Carriage Hill "sinkhole", Vlavianos reported her conversation with Karuna Pujara, State Highway Administration (SHA), on SHA's findings and procedure for correcting the "sinkhole" off Generals Highway. SHA recognizes there is a problem and it will be expensive to fix because four utilities are involved (3 underground, 1 overhead), the constraints of the site and the heavy equipment needed. A budget has been set aside for 2017 but more will be needed to do the job.

Whitcomb requested that this specific topic be removed from SRC's future agenda and he and the Seafern community will deal directly with SHA. Vlavianos agreed. She will email Karuna thanking her for working with SRC on this problem and inform her Whitcomb, a SRC member and resident of Seafern community that is impacted the most from the sediment generated from the ravine where the "sinkhole" is located, is the contact person from here on in, to direct all communication to him, and the Commission will no longer be involved.

Stormwater Management on Severn Run

No response has been received from DNR to SRC's June letter to David Goshorn regarding restoration plans to return the Severn Run area to its natural state.

Annapolis/Annapolis Marine Water Quality

Riegel reported the Annapolis Environmental Commission (AEC) will be discussing the marine No Discharge Zone (NDZ) at its September meeting. The SRC is on record with a letter to the

Mayor dated back to 2010 supporting the idea. Riegel, Chair of the AEC, will also represent the SRC on this topic.

Currently the AEC is an advisory body with no powers. Riegel reported that several aldermen suggested proposing new legislation giving AEC regulatory powers by statute to review and comment on proposed projects.

AEC has reviewed the most recently revised Crystal Spring plans and advised the City government to reject it. Delineation of forests and wetlands were inadequate and half of the priority forests would be cut down. City planners have also rejected the developers plan as proposed with many pages of comments.

Oyster Restoration Activities

Whitcomb reported Severn Heights marina will be a distribution site on the eastern side of the Severn River making it more attractive for growers on that side of the river to pick up the cages. Annapolis Yacht Club will also participate. New technology of twin rotation cages for growing spats is being evaluated.

Maynadier Waterski Course /Permit Application Notification

Spencer has received no response from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding his request for a hearing on the waterskiing course.

Burdick continues to gather information regarding the distribution of notifications for permit applications from the different county and state government agencies. SRC wants to find a way to be notified of pending applications for activities in and on the Severn River. Maynadier escaped SRC's notice until it was too late for comment, let alone for review.

Website – There was nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Hymes reported he is creating environmental videos for MD DNR.

Hymes reported the Crownsville Conservancy has after many years of delay finally acquired the deeds for many marginal lots in the development for permanent land preservation.

Spencer reported on the Rozalia project with headquarters in Vermont which maps trash piles on the ocean and harbor floors for marine debris clean-up.

Honor reported on “Green Rocks”, an experimental project to grow emergent grasses on rip rap being done by Anne Arundel Community College.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room (4th Floor), 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD.

Respectfully submitted,

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