

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**April 6, 2017 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4th Floor**

		<b>Attendance</b>
		<b>Record</b>
<b>Members Present:</b>	Sara Phillips, Vice Chair	2/4
	Jim Burdick	3/4
	Claudia Donegan, MD DNR (Ex Officio)	3/4
	Kurt Riegel	4/4
	Dick Spencer	4/4
<b>Guests and Staff:</b>	Meghan Spencer, AACo. DPW/WPRP	
	Betsy Love (St. Luke’s Episcopal Church)	
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Charlie Kreter, Chair	2/4
	Lex Birney	2/4
	Bill Kardash	2/4
	Del. Michael Malone, House of Del. (Ex Officio)	0/3
	Daniel Roche	1/4
	Bob Whitcomb	2/4

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Phillips called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:08 p.m. in the Severn Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was present.

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Betsy Love of St Luke’s Episcopal Church presented to the commission about citizen activism and the watershed restoration project at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church. Love addresses issues with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) budget, specifically the focus on local funding and alternative options. Love offered suggestions about pool funding for project management in tributary organizations, as well as reaching out to Homeowners Associations with visual evidence of potential outfall restoration to improve education and awareness.

Following the presentation, Love then answered questions from the SRC and meeting attendees. The presentation is available at the SRC office.

**PUBLIC INPUT / AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1) Spencer noted the pending reappointment of the SRC Vice Chair for 2017.

MOTION: A MOTION TO NOMINATE PHILLIPS AS THE SRC VICE CHAIR WAS MADE BY RIEGEL AND SECONDED BY BURDICK. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND PHILLIPS WAS ACCEPTED AS SRC VICE CHAIR.

**MINUTES**

The Minutes for the March 2, 2017, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 2, 2017 MINUTES, WAS MADE BY RIEGEL AND SECONDED BY BURDICK. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

- (1) There was no new correspondence.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Oyster Restoration Activities**

Spencer said the House of Representatives and Senate approved an extension of the management plan through 2018. Based on the Oyster Advisory Committee (OAC), the decision on the next two tributaries will take place soon.

Riegel asked if the oyster sanctuaries would remain protected. Spencer noted that the legislation to delay any changes to oyster sanctuaries until after 2018 has passed both the House and Senate.

**Annapolis Yacht Club**

Kardash spoke with Leo Wilson earlier in the week. Plans for the Compromise Street rebuild were sent to the City of Annapolis on March 30, 2017. The Annapolis Yacht Club (AYC) expect the permit to be issued in July 2017. Kardash noted that there is interior concrete damage, and a permit has been issued for repair to concrete damaged by the fire. In Eastport, plans for both sites outside and inside of the bridge will be sent to the City of Annapolis by the end of April 2017, and permits are expected to be issued in August or September 2017. The houses on Compromise Street will be demolished in early fall of 2017. The demolition of the Junior Annex will begin at the end of the sailing season, and construction will begin in mid/late fall of 2017.

There is an expected completion time of 14-16 months, though the Sailing Center outside the bridge may be available earlier.

Kardash said the focus is almost entirely on the rebuild from a construction perspective. The AYC met with Dianne Butler from the Annapolis Environmental Commission (AEC) in March 2017 to discuss stormwater management on the Eastport property. Kardash said there is no grading permit needed on the Compromise Street site, and the AYC feels that the current course is a major improvement on the existing property. The AYC wants to avoid any future cost increases and delays in construction. Riegel raised some questions regarding the AYC's status, specifically regarding 501C3 status and property taxes. Kardash said the AYC is registered as a 503C7 and all AYC properties are fully taxed.

### **No Discharge Zone**

Riegel said that there has been significant development in the No Discharge Zone (NDZ) application process. Spencer met with Donna Morrow from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), hoping the application would be submitted before any changes in leadership. If there are no comments on the application, it would presumably be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval. The deadline for comments is April 27, 2017.

Spencer asked what direction the SRC wants to take: to work in Anne Arundel County only or to take a multi-area/statewide/bay-wide approach. Phillips asked about the next steps in the NDZ application process. Kardash suggested starting the NDZ application and finding a sponsor. Riegel said that Birney and David Barker from the Back Creek Conservancy (BCC) have been discussing starting work on the application. Burdick spoke with Jackie Guild at the Chesapeake Legal Association (CLA) and she's looking into the application process. Spencer met with David Barker and South River Keeper Jesse Iliff to discuss state designations of sewage disposal areas in the Chesapeake Bay.

Riegel said the next Marine Advisory Board (MAB) meeting is on April 18, 2017. Donegan requested a 1-page fact sheet for people who don't know or understand the NDZ application process. Phillips suggested using the Chester River fact sheet as a template.

### **Future Presentations**

- May 2017: Erik Michelsen will deliver his presentation from the Watershed Stewards Academy (WSA) Conference on February 25, 2017
- Phillips wants Lisa Grieco (AECOM) to present on the City of Annapolis city dock stormwater project on sea level rise
- Spencer wants John Page Williams from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) to present

Spencer has also requested a better approach to scheduling presentations.

**Water Access**

Water Access discussion is on hold until May 2017.

**Permit Notifications**

Burdick circulated the administrative hearing calendar to all SRC members. Riegel noted a permit for a project on Hudson Street (just outside the City of Annapolis) impacting the upper watershed of Weems Creek. The proposal is for two (2) industrial warehouses on 6.88 acres. 2.7 acres of forest would be cleared, assuming there is no mitigation to block the clearing. The Annapolis City Council Environmental Matters Committee said the developer asked for connection to city water. Phillips asked for an update with any further information.

Spencer brought up the Tennis Center at Millersville Park (TCM) that was discussed at the previous month's meeting. There have been no updates, but Spencer requested that the SRC keep an eye on the project due to the close proximity to Jabez Run.

**Website**

There was nothing new to report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Phillips asked Spencer for an update on stream protection regulations. Spencer will email the SRC members after the meeting on April 12, 2017.

**PUBLIC INPUT/NEW ITEMS**

There was no public input.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the Severn Room (4<sup>th</sup> Floor), 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Spencer  
AACounty DPW, Bureau of Engineering  
Watershed Protection & Restoration Program