

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**October 5, 2017 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4th Floor**

		<b>Attendance Record</b>
<b>Members Present:</b>	Charlie Kreter, Chair	7/9
	Lex Birney	5/9
	Jim Burdick	7/9
	Claudia Donegan, MD DNR (Ex Officio)	8/9
	Del. Michael Malone, House of Del. (Ex Officio)	5/8
	Kurt Riegel	9/9
	Dick Spencer	9/9
	Bob Whitcomb	6/9
<b>Guests and Staff:</b>	Erik Michelsen, AACo. DPW/WPRP	
	Meghan Spencer, AACo. DPW/WPRP	
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Sara Phillips, Vice Chair	4/9
	Bill Kardash	6/9
	Daniel Roche	4/9

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kreter 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 – Erik Michelsen; Anne Arundel County WPRP**

Erik Michelsen of the Anne Arundel County Watershed Protection & Restoration Program (WPRP) presented to the commission about the Severn Watershed Project Implementation Progress Update. Michelsen briefly discussed the current status of WPRP-funded projects and goals of current and future projects.

Michelsen then discussed various current projects within Anne Arundel County, as well as provided status updates on additional projects that will take place in the future. Michelsen talked about the Full Delivery of Water Quality Improvements Request for Proposals and the Anne Arundel County Watershed Stewards Academy (WSA).

Following the presentation, Michelsen answered questions from the SRC. The presentation is available at the SRC office.

## **PUBLIC INPUT / AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public input.

## **MINUTES**

The Minutes for the August 3, 2017, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 3, 2017 MINUTES, WAS MADE BY BURDICK AND SECONDED BY RIEGEL. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

- (1) Kreter will send the final letter regarding the 39 Hudson Street Development on Weems Creek to the City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Council on October 6, 2017.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Oyster Restoration Activities**

Whitcomb said that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has not made a decision regarding river selection for oyster restoration. Whitcomb noted that Eric Campbell from DNR gave a presentation at the last Severn River Association (SRA) meeting. Secretary Beldin is emphasizing the need for intense oyster restoration.

Whitcomb also noted that spat was delivered to the Annapolis Yacht Club (AYC) last week.

### **Annapolis Yacht Club**

Kreter confirmed with Kardash that work is being done as fast as possible on the original Annapolis Yacht Club (AYC) site. The AYC is hoping to have permits for the Eastport site finalized by the end of October 2017, and maritime space at the Compromise Street site available by April 2018.

### **No Discharge Zone**

Riegel hasn't received any updates from David Barker (Back Creek Conservancy). Birney received an email from David Barker suggesting that it's unlikely anything will happen federally for the time being. The Chester River No Discharge Zone (NDZ) has not been finalized, and is not sure of the current status of the NDZ application.

Donegan suggests submitting the application and then concentrate on lobbying for NDZ support. Kreter confirmed with Donna Morrow (MDE) that signs can be posted in declaration of an NDZ. Birney will follow up with David Barker on the NDZ application status.

### **Future Presentations**

- Donegan asked Whitcomb to contact Lisa Gutierrez (DNR) to discuss public water access prior to scheduling a future presentation
- Spencer wants to coordinate a presentation from John & Tom Guay (SRA Monitoring Team), Dr. Tammy Domanski (Anne Arundel Community College/Operation Clearwater), Caroline Donovan (University of Maryland), and Lou Etgen (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay) on monitoring issues; Kreter suggested 1 presenter; Spencer will look into it
- Spencer requested a presentation from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)
- Kreter will request a presentation from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation legal team for November 2017 or December 2017.

### **Water Access**

There was nothing new to report.

### **Permit Notifications**

Spencer noted a hearing on October 12, 2017 regarding the Wroxeter property in Arnold. Signs posted referenced more properties within the Resource Conservation Area (RCA) than would be allowed to be built as well as steep slope issues. Kreter has questions about what would be built on the property. Spencer said that isn't entirely clear. Burdick will check the permit notifications for additional information.

### **Yellow Perch Habitat Protection**

Whitcomb left a copy of the letter discussed in the September 2017 SRC meeting with Phillips.

The Magothy River Association (MRA) is attempting to get habitat protection for yellow perch, and wondered if the SRC be doing the same. Spencer also addressed an issue with the way Anne Arundel County is handling habitat protection. Whitcomb mentioned a new habitat protection program, asking if it was county or state legislation.

Spencer noted that the program is part of the critical area legislation, and that the county must make habitat protection area designations for endangered or protected species. Jesse Iliff and the Chesapeake Legal Association (CLA) have been pushing for a habitat protection area. Kreter requested a copy of the letter.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Whitcomb noted that the Severn Riverkeeper may or not be living in state, and asked if he violated the terms of his license, as well as if the SRC is concerned with the issue. Spencer suggested speaking with Sarah Caldes, noting that programs appear to be proceeding as usual. Spencer also suggested contacting the local Chesapeake Waterkeeper Alliance. Whitcomb feels that the SRA should take the initiative on the issue.

Donegan mentioned a meeting on November 30, 2017 about forest preservation and restoration at Sandy Point State Park. Kreter requested future updates.

Spencer wants to add issues of monitoring & modeling the river to the November 2017 SRC agenda, and has requested a presentation from SERC. Whitcomb plans to invite Tom Gay (SRA Program Manager) if there is going to be a discussion on modeling.

**PUBLIC INPUT/NEW ITEMS**

There was no public input.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 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