

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**November 9, 2017 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4th Floor**

	<b>Attendance Record</b>
<b>Members Present:</b>	
Charlie Kreter, Chair	8/10
Sara Phillips, Vice Chair	5/10
Lex Birney	6/10
Jim Burdick	8/10
Claudia Donegan, MD DNR (Ex Officio)	9/10
Bill Kardash	7/10
Del. Michael Malone, House of Del. (Ex Officio)	6/10
Kurt Riegel	10/10
Daniel Roche	5/10
Dick Spencer	10/10
Bob Whitcomb	7/10
<b>Guests and Staff:</b>	
Capt. Diana Muller, Chesapeake BaySavers	
Gail Kenson, United States Naval Academy	
Meghan Spencer, AACo. DPW/WPRP	

**Members Absent:**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kreter called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:04 p.m. in the Severn Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was present.

**GUEST SPEAKER – Capt. Diana Muller, Chesapeake BaySavers**

Capt. Diana Muller of the Chesapeake BaySavers (CBS) presented to the commission about the CBS mission and its' focus on education, outreach and legislation. CBS is split into two organizations, the Chesapeake Baysavers Foundation (CBF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on education and outreach, and Chesapeake Baysavers, Inc. (CBI), a 501(c)(4) nonprofit focused on legislation. Capt. Muller then discussed various accomplishments, news reports, education and outreach efforts, and current legislation as well as legislation for 2018.

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

**GUEST SPEAKER – Gail Kenson, United States Naval Academy**

Gail Kenson of the United States Naval Academy (USNA) presented to the commission on the USNA Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI). Kenson discussed the parameters, funding and environmental areas protected through 2016 by REPI, as well as the requirements to work with REPI and benefits of joining. Kenson then discussed the focus areas for REPI funding, the REPI area and the relationship with the Naval Support Activity Annapolis (NSAA).

Following the presentation, Kenson 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 October 5, 2017, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 5, 2017 MINUTES, WAS MADE BY WHITCOMB AND SECONDED BY RIEGEL. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WILL BE REVISED AS APPROVED.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

- (1) Kreter said that of the four expiring terms, Chair Kreter, Vice Chair Phillips, and Birney will continue their terms. Roche will confirm his term at the next SRC meeting.
- (2) Spencer noted that the GIS Application Presentation would take place at the Pip Moyer Recreation Center the week following the SRC meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Yellow Perch Habitat Protection**

Spencer said that yellow perch is only part of habitat protection, and that work is ongoing between the Chesapeake Legal Alliance (CLA), Jesse Iliff, and Anne Arundel County as part of critical area legislation. There is a meeting on November 29, and Spencer plans to attend.

**Permit Notifications**

Burdick sent an email to the SRC members regarding the project at 39 Hudson Street. Kreter sent a letter on October 6, 2017, and Kevin Scott responded. The project was approved 17 days

later as submitted with no consideration for the Severn River Association (SRA) letter or any of the issues that the letter addressed.

Spencer suggested sending a copy of the letter to the new Mayor of the City of Annapolis. Burdick noted that Kreter received no response. Burdick said that construction has begun on the Weems Creek property, but that no grading permits have been applied for, noting that the property has been annexed by the City of Annapolis. Kardash asked about dredging. Burdick said that Anne Arundel County is dredging in the non-tidal waterway, therefore no permit is necessary.

Spencer asked about habitat protection for a bald eagle nest, noting a hearing on November 30, 2017 about development plans, suggesting that the property may be a candidate for public water access or conservation easement.

### **Public Water Access**

There was nothing new to report.

### **Future Presentations**

- December 2017: RES (Whitcomb), Scenic Rivers (Spencer)
- January 2017: Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) (Spencer)
- February 2017: Tom Guay (SRA) (Kreter)
- Donegan asked Whitcomb to contact Lisa Gutierrez (DNR) to discuss public water access prior to scheduling a future presentation
- Kreter will request a presentation from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation legal team

### **No Discharge Zone (NDZ)**

Riegel has nothing new to report.

Birney received an email from David Barker of the Back Creek Conservancy (BCC). There is a meeting of the Anne Arundel Clean Boating Coalition (AACBC) on November 16, 2017. The format of the NDZ application is complete, but there are some remaining issues that need to be addressed, including the number and types of vessels, as well as education and enforcement efforts.

Riegel said that City of Annapolis Mayor Gavin Buckley is in favor of the NDZ. Kardash noted that Mayor Buckley mentioned his support of the NDZ in several forums. Kreter said that Barker hired an intern. Spencer said he last heard from Barker 2 weeks before the meeting, and that Barker was concerned about Donna Morrow thinking about a statewide NDZ rather than individual county NDZ applications. Spencer is unsure of the application progress.

### **Annapolis Yacht Club**

Kardash said that the Compromise Street club house is down to the frame, and work is progressing, though construction debris that needs removal has been discovered. On the family center side of the site, the utilities have been capped, all the old buildings have been removed, and the former sailing center is gone. There is some concern regarding parking over the next year. The main club house will reopen on July 1, 2018 at the earliest date. Riegel asked if the main frame of the original building was salvaged and if it would be expanded. Kardash said that the original frame was saved and would be expanded approximately 3,000 square feet on 2 floors.

### **Oyster Restoration Activities**

Whitcomb said there was nothing new to report, aside from an article published in the Annapolis Capital Gazette 2 weeks prior to the SRC meeting. A segment about oyster restoration was aired on WJZ TV. John Page Williams from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) relocated oysters from a pier that had to be removed to the CBF piers.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **PUBLIC INPUT/NEW ITEMS**

There was no public input.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 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