

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**August 2, 2018 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

|                          |   | <b>Attendance<br/>Record</b> |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Members Present:</b>  | Charlie Kreter, Chair                           | 8/8                          |
|                          | Sara Phillips, Vice Chair                       | 5/8                          |
|                          | Lex Birney                                      | 4/8                          |
|                          | Jim Burdick                                     | 6/8                          |
|                          | Bill Kardash                                    | 5/8                          |
|                          | Kurt Riegel                                     | 7/8                          |
|                          | Daniel Roche                                    | 7/8                          |
|                          | Dick Spencer                                    | 8/8                          |
| Bob Whitcomb             | 6/8   |                              |
| <b>Guests and Staff:</b> | Meghan Spencer, ACo. DPW/WPRP                   |                              |
|                          | Kevin Smith, MD DNR                             |                              |
|                          | Keith Underwood, Underwood & Associates         |                              |
|                          | Chris Becraft, Underwood & Associates           |                              |
| <b>Members Absent:</b>   | Claudia Donegan, MD DNR (Ex Officio)            | 5/8                          |
|                          | Del. Michael Malone, House of Del. (Ex Officio) | 3/8                          |

**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 – Kevin Smith (Maryland Department of Natural Resources)**  
**Keith Underwood & Chris Becraft (Underwood & Associates)**

Kevin Smith presented to the commission about the Kyle Road living shoreline project. He discussed the permit status of the project, as well as the process of working with Coastal Design Engineers brought in by other residents to review the project. Smith noted this was a private dredging project that was not funded by Anne Arundel County.

Keith Underwood and Chris Becraft discussed the construction aspect of the project. The main goals of the project are to protect the property through erosion maintenance, alleviate the need for dredging and enhance the natural habitat. Underwood uses dynamic living shorelines to achieve these goals by using the existing natural habitat as the structure base for the project. Becraft noted that the permit approval is expected to be completed in fall of 2018.

Following the presentation, Smith, Underwood and Becraft 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 July 12, 2018, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 12, 2018 MINUTES, WAS MADE BY WHITCOMB AND SECONDED BY SPENCER. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MINUTES WILL BE REVISED AS APPROVED.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no new correspondence.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Bulkhead Replacement**

After the presentation and subsequent discussion, there was nothing new to report.

**Weems Creek**

Whitcomb referenced the portion of the SRC bylaws regarding the Weems Creek Conservancy and the Weems Creek Greenway. Kreter is still working with the Anne Arundel County Law Office. Riegel noted that it was in the original SRC Charter, and Kreter is working to remove the language in question. Burdick stated that he is the sole member of the Weems Creek Conservancy.

**Nutrient Runoff Initiative**

Spencer said there have been no actual studies on nitrogen levels in Anne Arundel County, and the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) data in a 2008 report is based on theoretical modeled data. Spencer will put together an overview. Spencer is also researching an appropriate grant that closes to applications in the first week of September 2018.

**Permit Notifications**

Burdick said there are two permit hearings in August 2018 outside of Anne Arundel County, but there were no new permit hearings within Anne Arundel County.

After some discussion, the SRC agreed to write a letter of support for the Kyle Road living shoreline project to the Army Corps of Engineers. Phillips will draft a letter.

### **Water Access**

There was nothing new to report.

### **Future Presentations**

- Whitcomb requested a presentation on Weems Creek
- Spencer requested a presentation from Betsy Love on the St. Luke's project
- Whitcomb requested a presentation on the Naval Academy Wastewater Treatment Plant
- January 2019: Jon Mueller, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

### **Annapolis Yacht Club**

Kardash said that the temporary club on Dock Street will close for two weeks starting August 8, 2018. The Compromise Street property is scheduled to partially open in late August 2018. The Sailing Center will be completed by the first week of September 2018. All other projects are operating on schedule.

Roche asked if the Annapolis Yacht Club (AYC) shoreline had been hardened. Kardash said that it was hardened for boat docking and launching, and there is no pervious parking surface. Whitcomb suggested the AYC leadership look into their carbon footprint. Birney suggested there were issues within the AYC regarding reporting environmental issues. Phillips suggested drafting a letter to offer assistance.

### **Oyster Restoration Activities**

Whitcomb submitted the order for cages and spat, and noted that the AYC is the largest distribution point with nearly 100 cages. Roche said that the AYC doesn't communicate with members about involvement in oyster restoration efforts.

Whitcomb said there was notification within the first year of participation, but is unsure of any recent AYC internal communication. According to Whitcomb, enough spat was ordered for 2,000 cages.

Kardash asked about the Conowingo Dam issue. Whitcomb says it has environmentally impacted the Severn River, but any damage to oyster reefs hasn't been discovered and any sediment damage hasn't been discussed yet. Phillips will ask Dr. Mueller about the sediment issue. Kardash asked if the SRC should support work on the sediment issue. Spencer will

address the issue with Governor Hogan. Kardash asked if Exelon was involved, and Riegel asked about the environmental cost of operating the dam.

MOTION: A MOTION TO VOICE CONCERN TO COUNTY EXECUTIVE SCHUH AND GOVERNOR HOGAN, WAS MADE BY KARDASH AND SECONDED BY PHILLIPS. THE MOTION WAS PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

### **No Discharge Zone**

Riegel met with David Barker of the Back Creek Conservancy (BCC) prior to the meeting. Barker is working with Donna Morrow of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to get all draft NDZ application comments into a DNR-approved format. Riegel drafted a resolution with the Annapolis City Council and Anne Arundel County Council to authorize the NDZ application submission to DNR. Riegel said the draft is currently being revised, and will be submitted by September 1, 2018.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **NEW ITEMS**

Phillips will coordinate a speaker for an update on the Naval Academy Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Spencer asked Phillips for an update on the Greenbury Point shoreline restoration.

Whitcomb has been working with the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) on the Jabez. Construction on a failed culvert on General's Highway between Epping Forest and Carriage Hills began the previous week.

Spencer sent an email with the Shipley's Dam update earlier in the month, but hasn't heard anything about the Jabez restoration project. Spencer assumes the project is going through permitting and finance, as the SHA is currently reviewing environmental projects from a financial perspective.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 6, 2018 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