

**SEVERN RIVER COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**December 6, 2018 – 4:00 P.M.**  
**Severn Room, 2664 Riva Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

	<b>Attendance Record</b>
<b>Members Present:</b> Sara Phillips, Acting Chair	9/12
Kurt Riegel, Acting Vice Chair	9/12
Lex Birney	6/12
Jim Burdick	9/12
Bill Kardash	8/12
Dick Spencer	12/12
Bob Whitcomb	8/12
<b>Guests and Staff:</b> Larry Mathena, AACo. DPW/WPRP	
Meghan Spencer, AACo. DPW/WPRP	
<b>Members Absent:</b> Charlie Kreter, Chair	8/12
Claudia Donegan, MD DNR (Ex Officio)	7/12
Del. Michael Malone, House of Del. (Ex Officio)	4/12
Daniel Roche	9/12

**CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Chair Phillips called the regular monthly meeting of the Severn River Commission (SRC) to order at 4:03 p.m. in the Severn Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. A quorum was present.

**GUEST SPEAKER – Larry Mathena, AACo. DPW/WPRP**

Larry Mathena presented to the commission about the Shipley’s Dam Removal. He discussed the project timeline and background, some challenges that came up with the project, portions of the project that have been completed, as well as the different phases of the project. He showed drawings of the completed project. Mathena noted that the WPRP asked permission from nearby residents to inspect their homes before construction began, and will perform follow up inspection after completion. There will be monitoring of the vibration and noise throughout the project. Trees and shrubs removed during the project will be replaced by 141 new trees and 493 new shrubs. To mitigate the additional traffic, the county traffic engineer has changed some traffic light cycles at nearby intersections.

Following the presentation, Mathena 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 November 1, 2018, regular monthly meeting were presented for approval.

MOTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 1, 2018 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**

Birney was selected for County Executive Pittman's Thriving Communities Committee, in charge of Infrastructure. Spencer emailed a summary of the Muller's presentation to the Severn River Association (SRA) to the Commission members. Birney asked about hardened shorelines vs. living shorelines. Phillips requested help with the permitting process. Spencer asked about the County Environmental Advisory Officer, and will follow up with Kate Fritz.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Bulkhead Replacement**

Phillips said that support letters for living shorelines were sent to Joseph DaVia of the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) and Lynn Buhl of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

### **Weems Creek**

There was nothing new to report.

### **Nutrient Runoff Initiative**

Spencer is making progress, but says the nutrient runoff is only part of the problem. Spencer referenced the presentation by Dr. and Capt. Muller at the Severn River Association (SRA) meeting earlier in the month. Spencer noted that there needs to be a cohesive plan for the Severn River as an environment, including water, land use, and forest replacement; as well as a model that other watersheds can use to develop for their needs. Spencer feels that the SRC should be working with the SRA and Severn Riverkeeper to make a collective plan.

## **Permit Notifications**

Burdick said the comment period for the Spa Creek permit closed on November 29, 2018. Burdick is currently waiting for more information on the project.

## **Water Access**

There was nothing new to report.

## **Future Presentations**

- Whitcomb requested a presentation on Weems Creek
- Spencer requested a presentation on the St. Mary's living shoreline, Phillips will reach out
- Roche requested a presentation from Dr. Muller on the status of the Severn River
- January 2019: Jon Mueller, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

## **Annapolis Yacht Club**

Kardash asked Leo Wilson for an update on the project, but hasn't yet received a response. The family activity center is progressing, and may be completed by the end of February 2019. Riegel asked if aspects of construction haven't occurred that affect SRC discussions. Kardash discussed the formation of an environmental committee with Annapolis Yacht Club (AYC) members, as well as wanting to expand beyond oyster restoration. Phillips mentioned stormwater treatment at the edge of the sailing center parking lot. Kardash will ask for updates on the family activity center.

## **Oyster Restoration Activities**

Whitcomb said there is still spat available at the sailing center.

## **No Discharge Zone**

Riegel said there is formal support for the NDZ from the Annapolis City Council & Anne Arundel County Council in the form of supporting resolutions. Riegel expressed concern that the application might not be submitted bearing visible signatures of officials in the City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. Riegel would prefer the application be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with the visible "owners" being DNR, the City of Annapolis, and Anne Arundel County. Birney had discussed the application previously with David Barker of the Back Creek Conservancy (BCC), and a draft application has been submitted to DNR. DNR wants to have the results of public input meetings before forwarding a final application to the EPA.

**Naval Academy Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Phillips requested removal of the item from the agenda.

**Shiple's Dam Removal**

After the presentation, there was nothing new to report.

**Greenbury Point**

Phillips said there will be a new barrier and it will be made clear through postings when closed.

**City of Annapolis Stormwater Management**

Kardash said that pump station construction will begin in 2020.

**South Annapolis Yacht Center**

Kardash said that all boats are out of the marina, and that deconstruction may still happen by the end of 2018.

**Millersville Tennis Center**

Spencer saw an article in the Annapolis Capital Gazette mentioning that the Millersville Tennis Center is currently being designed. Spencer hasn't had the opportunity to speak with Doug Lamartin, the Annapolis Capital Gazette tennis writer. Spencer wants to make sure the construction won't impact the work on the Jabez.

**Future Projects**

On hold until February 2019.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW ITEMS**

**State of the Severn**

Phillips wants to pursue some actions to get a cohesive look at all actions on the Severn River, leading to a cohesive work plan.

### **Appointments**

Kardash & Spencer are up for reappointment to the SRC at the end of January 2019. Phillips contacted Bernadine Crosby about appointments, and will contact the SRC members when she has confirmation. Riegel wants to extend invitations to the Annapolis City Council and Anne Arundel County Council to appoint ex-officio members to the SRC.

### **Potential Projects**

Birney asked for a list of items for the SRC to focus on in the future, specifically the Crownsville Hospital Property. Spencer will email Birney a list of contacts to help with the Crownsville Hospital Property issue. Phillips said the developer at the David Taylor has started work on the project again, and requested to put the item back on the agenda. Whitcomb asked to continue the commitment to public water access. Phillips will draft a list of potential projects.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m. The next SRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 3, 2019 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