

## MINUTES

### ENVIRONMENT & NATUARAL ASSETS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 28, 2021, 10: AM

#### Virtual

**Present** – Chairman Ken Wolf, Sharon Santacroce, Marty Clarke, John Maziuk, Karen Detter, and Susan Holt were present and made a quorum. Tom Janacek, Board liaison, Colby Phillips of Ocean Pines, and Kevin Smith and Steve Farr from MCBP attended. Paul Fohner, Anne O’Connell and Pat Benner were unable to attend

**Call to Order:** – Ken Wolf called the meeting to order at 10: AM.

**Chairman’s comments:** - none

**Approval of Agenda:** - Approved by acclamation.

**Approval of Minutes:** - The minutes for our last meeting on December 16, 2020, were approved by a motion from John, seconded by Sharon and affirmative vote by all.

**Public Comments:** None

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

#### MEETING WITH MCBP

- Bay Day – Bay Days has been rescheduled for the Spring of 2022
- Kevin reported that there was potentially \$50Million available for Coastal Bays improvements early on in 2020. That did not happen. Even if they had received such a sum, he didn’t think everything that was necessary could be accomplished. He did believe that by continuing to work together the improvement of The St. Martins and surrounding waters was possible.
- Areas identified for improvement by MCBP were: stormwater runoff, Agricultural runoff and ground water infiltration, development, loss of wetlands, improved practices for drainage ditches. They indicated that mitigating the loss of wetlands was their highest priority
- Kevin mentioned the eventual restoration of Jenkins Point, if it happened, would be an example of a worthwhile rising sea level resiliency project. Apparently, these type projects are high on the Government’s priority list for funding.
- MCBP has no official stance on the pros and cons of spraying sewerage plant effluent on our golf course. Ken would like to know more on the impact of sewerage plant outflows on the St Martins.
- ***How can we be more effective in working with you?*** All agreed that with the involvement of Colby, Tom and Doug we were starting to accomplish much good. The more of this kind of participation the better. Ken wants to see how this very productive engagement can be strengthened so it survives and prospers beyond the eventual successions of OPA personnel.
- Since the propagation of significant quantities of oysters to help restore water quality seems questionable at best, what about the seeding of other more reliable though less efficient bivalves to actively help? Kevin believes there may be more, but limited, hope for the restoration of oyster population in our bays. But he believes other bivalves deserve consideration He has offered to provide a working paper he has found on the subject.
- Kevin agreed to meet with Ken at the Route 90 pond to discuss how it can better benefit the local population.
- Ken asked them to come back to us with their thinking on how the water quality in our canals could be improved

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Marty Clarke