

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENT & NATUARAL ASSETS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 22, 2022
Conference Room, Admin. Bldg. – 10 a.m.

Present: Sharon Santacroce (Chair), Anne O’Connell, John Maziuk, Pat Benner, Patty Gamby, Patricia Garcia, Tim Peck, Karen Baldwin, Karen Detter was excused and Doug Parks (Board Liaison) was absent

Call to Order: Sharon Santacroce called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Chairman’s comments: Sharon mentioned the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held on Thursday, March 23rd at OP Yacht Club and all committee members are invited to attend including a guest.

She also brought up the inaccurate headlines in the Bayside Gazette on February 2nd stating “geese keep tearing up shoreline around pond” when they incorrectly reported on the South Pond erosion issue and our presentation by SOLitude Lake Management for repairs. Sharon wrote a letter to the editor correcting this unsubstantiated biased conclusion and asked for a correction. As of March 14th, all we have received is an apology from the Editor, Stuart Dobson, via e-mail. The inaccurate headline was also addressed with the reporter, Cindy Hoffman, who says she is not anti-geese and headlines are the Editor’s responsibility. Readers of the Bayside Gazette are being misled – geese do not tear up the shoreline. Sharon corrected them stating erosion around the South Pond is a naturally occurring event that needs to be addressed especially along Ocean Parkway before the infrastructure (roadway) is affected.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Anne and seconded by Karen B. and approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Tim and seconded by Patty G. and approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- South Pond Buffer/Erosion Plan – John Phelps of SOLitude Lake Management - received his pricing/contract on March 10, 2023.
- Signs for Route 90 Pond – Patty Gamby updated us with her research and we decided going forward these signs will be referred to as “interpretive” and ways to keep costs down may be using stock photos. Ad Art in Georgetown, DE might be an agency we may consider using and Tim pointed out that Assateague Park may have signs to donate to our cause.
- Duck Crossing Signs – Anne gave us pricing she found on sandwich signs and reflective attachments needed on each side stating “duck/geese crossing” – we noted that the county and state have no problem with us using these signs but we need OP management approval.

NEW BUSINESS

- Yard waste/plastic bags – Patricia Garcia provided her update and we decided Sharon would send info@oceanpines.org an e-mail with our recommendations to help control culvert flooding issues since the Board had already passed the budget and the truck that provides leaf collection will no longer be in the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024
- Tree Removal & Permitting Process in AP/ARC Review – Tim Peck and John Maziuk gave us the results of their research and Tim will prepare a report for OP management to review including our observations and recommendations
- Oyster Gardening – Karen Baldwin will contact the Marine Committee to see if she can coordinate oyster farming by canal property owners in OP. She will also provide assistance with Protectors of the St. Martin River on Bay Day.

Date of next meeting – April 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Administration Bldg. Conference Room

Adjourn