

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

Present: Sharon Santacroce (Chair), Anne O’Connell, Karen Detter, John Maziuk, Patty Gamby, Patricia Garcia, Tim Peck, Karen Baldwin, Doug Parks (Board Liaison), Jim Spicknell - Angler’s Club, Pat Benner was excused

Call to Order: Sharon Santacroce called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM – delay due to IT connection of Microsoft Teams meeting

Chairman’s comments: None

Public Comments: Jim Spicknell mentioned the shad running from Manklin Creek to the South Pond for spawning and the culvert is blocked by overgrowth. Sharon will e-mail oceanpines@info.com to ask them to cut back the growth. Jim also asked if the new Royal Farms construction had interfered environmentally with rain runoff from their site to our South Pond. Patty G. will research and report back to the committee.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Tim and seconded by Karen D. and approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Karen B. and seconded by Tim and approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- South Pond Buffer/Erosion Plan – Pricing/contract of March 10, 2023 from SOLitude Lake Management (John Phelps) was submitted to MCB for funding consideration through OP Management via Doug Parks.
- Interpretive Signs for Route 90 Pond – Patty Gamby e-mailed committee members with her suggestions and asked for our feedback. She noted that Ad Art is potential contact for creating our signs. Also Tim made a call to Assateague Park and found they do not have any state or federal signs available for our use.
- Duck Crossing Signs – Anne provided feedback that OP Management has ordered these signs. We await their arrival for use at roadways with excessive waterfowl crossings especially families with goslings and ducklings.
- Oyster Gardening – Karen Baldwin and members discussed a potential video for educating school children about the importance of oysters in cleaning our waterways. Horseshoe crabs were also discussed and the important role they play in our ecosystem.
- Tree Removal & Permitting Process – John sat in the lobby of Public Works to wait for someone to discuss the process. OP has a lack of inspectors to oversee tree removal and one or two of our members may volunteer to help out especially on weekends. Tim mentioned in the future possible new trees might be planted in parks to replenish the dying and aging trees (for our future radar).

NEW BUSINESS

- MD 90 Corridor Study – John gave a review of the state’s website outlining the prospective plans to widen the corridor and potential environmental impacts. He said there is an excellent article in the March 2nd Bayside Gazette that covers this topic in-depth. This project is 5 to 10 years away.
- Bay Day on May 7, 2023 (Sunday) – Several of our members will participate in this educational and environmental awareness day held in Whitehorse Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Date of next meeting – May 24, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Administration Bldg. Conference Room

Adjourn