

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENT & NATUARAL ASSETS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 24, 2023
Conference Room, Admin. Bldg. – 10 a.m.

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

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

Chairman’s comments: None

Public Comments: None

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- South Pond Buffer/Erosion Plan – We continue to await word on acceptance or denial. Expectations are we will hear something around October 2023 from Maryland Coastal Bays to OPA Management.
- Interpretive Signs for Route 90 Pond – Sharon brought a boundary survey to this meeting. We shared at info@oceanpines.org and Parks and Recs committee the challenges and comments on what we have observed that needs to be worked on by Public Works. For example, some boards are loose and falling apart on the foot bridge plus a tree is falling down also.
- Bay Day Reminder – May 7th at White Horse Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Karen D. and Sharon participated on behalf of ducks and Canada geese. We were not there representing the committee.
- Tree Removal & Permitting Process – Tim and John shared another response to info@oceanpines.org comments received. Tim sent pictures of several lots that have been needlessly clear cut by home builders, which we shared with OPA. State law/County cannot remove trees within 200 ft. of waterway (unless you are OPA at the South Pond). Robert’s Rules of Order was waived and then Doug Parks told us we are not allowed to invite any builder to our meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

- West Side of South Pond – Patty Gamby discussed her observations on erosion. She will e-mail info@oceanpines.org on OP’s efforts so far (i.e. rocks make erosion worse).

- Green Street Article – Patricia Garcia wrote the next article due June 15th – on Easy Tips on Going Green. The article was well received by Josh Davis.
- Bee Hive Installation – OP Gardening Area – request by OPA management to discuss if bees pose a threat to humans. We were in agreement that Mason Bees are harmless and will be very beneficial to the gardens. Also we discussed there are no pesticides in use near the gardens that might harm the bees.
- Teach a Kid to Fish Day – Saturday, June 17th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Karen Baldwin and Patty Gamby helped Sharon provide materials to the kids and was available to discuss the importance of clearing your gear to protect the environment and wildlife.
- John commented that the Lower Eastern Shore banned plastic bags last week.

Date of next meeting – June 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Administration Bldg. Conference Room

Adjourn