

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENT & NATUARAL ASSETS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 27, 11: AM

EAST ROOM

Present – Chairman Ken Wolf, Sharon Santacroce, Marty Clarke, John Maziuk, Anne O’Connell, Karen Detter, Susan Holt and Pat Benner attended and made a quorum. Paul Fohner was excused. Debbie Donahue representing the GM attended as did new liaison Amy Peck. John Viola, GM, Eddie Wells, Director of PW, and Jason from the golf course also attended. Bob Mitchell the director of Environmental Programs for Worcester County was in attendance and gave a presentation.

Call to Order: – Ken Wolf called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

Chairman’s comments and public comments: - None

Approval of Agenda: - Motion by Sharon and seconded Susan and approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: - The minutes for our last meeting on July 28, 2021, were approved by a motion from Pat and seconded by Sharon was approved by a unanimous vote of committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Water testing status – Bob Mitchell** – Bob spoke to the anomaly in the November 2020 water test. He feels there is no way that those human waste numbers are correct. He spoke to the fact that almost the entire sewer infrastructure in proximity of the north gate ponds was relatively new and working properly. Mr. Mitchell also felt that the DNA testing didn’t justify the cost involved because the water is tested regularly for pollution and if any exists it is the source is normally obvious. John Viola spoke to the lack of communication with regard to the previous testing. He says that he didn’t even know about the DNA testing until recently. Eddie Wells didn’t have any knowledge either. John has ordered new tests with results should be available shortly and will hopefully correct the before reported high levels of pollution. The reason for delayed communication appears that Tom Janacek, in his capacity as our liaison as well as a member of the ACT board, received the results and only shared with other board members fearing that if the results were made public it might cause unnecessary concern. Bob discussed different contributing sources of pollution in general. He discussed air pollution, specifically the Indian River power plant which pollutes the ocean and bays. He also touched on the population growth to our northern border with Delaware. Bob felt that the natural growth of grasses and vegetation around our ponds would go a long way to minimize our resident goose problems.
- **Status of motion on Flight Turf** – John Viola spoke to the cost of the product if properly installed. While our committee had offered that the subject experiment area would cost approximately \$2,600 an acre. Eddie and Jason believe that was the very low. Their estimate to remove the existing grass and properly install the flight turf would actual cost \$45,000 to \$60,000 all in for the north gate.ponds . For the veterans pond the costs could run over \$100,000. The committee, suffering from sticker shock, decided to readdress at our next meeting with more information.
- **Status of new geese signs** – The approved sign design is being manufactured. When this product is delivered Ken will meet with Eddie and go over the locations for them to be installed.
- **Clarity on the responsibility for egg addling** – Eddie Wells is now responsible for this action.
- **Status of motion to advance recommendations for mailbox pavilion** – Amy reported that the board was already having discussions on this motion. She said the board was still trying to determine who actually owns the mailboxes. Amy plans on bringing forth a motion to start the ball rolling.
- **Further discussion on bay front property in Ocean City** – Committee seemed interested in investigating some environmentally sound improvements which could benefit the membership. Amy had a suggestion that we review the current lease agreement to be sure we even had the right to do anything to the property.

- **Route 90 pond (Offshore Lake) status with MCBP** – Ken will follow up at the November MCBP meeting.

PAGE TWO

NEW BUSINESS

- **Report on plantings event at Bainbridge Park with MCBP** – Everyone who attended thought it went very well. Amy mentioned the ground was hard as a rock but they managed to plant everything. A great project accomplished with MCBP support.
- **2021 Annual Report** – After some discussion and minimal changes the draft report was approved by acclamation and will be cleaned up and submitted by Ken before the deadline.
- **Date of next meeting** our next meeting will be on November 19, 2021, at 10: AM in the East Room.

Adjourn