

Marine Activities Advisory Committee

May 17, 2022, Meeting Minutes

MAAC Members Present: Donna McElroy (acting chair), Sue Challis (acting Secretary), John Latham, Mike Johnson, Jerry Leuters, Board Liaison, Doug Parks

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. The minutes from the April 19 meeting were accepted with one change requested by Mike Johnson (no lights were requested by kayakers - only markers). Sue will make the change and Donna will send the minutes to the Board.

Old Business: The Marine Debris Plunder scheduled for May 15 was cancelled because of the weather (a severe spring storm a few days before the event) as well as the lack of registrations for the event. Doug Parks remarked that an event such as this must have community support to be successful. Sandi Smith from Maryland Coastal Bays will schedule a meeting with the volunteer group in the next several weeks to discuss rescheduling the event.

John Latham gave an update on some of the **requests** that have come in from residents and some that had been referred up to GM John Viola. He said there has been progress on the aluminum ramp and railing on the ramp at the Yacht Club. The goal is to complete the work prior to Memorial Day. He gave an update on the T-piers to be added to the Yacht Club - which because of supply issues have been pushed back to the end of June. No update on the bathroom issue. Jerry said the pool railing appears to be on the list of repairs - maybe the bathroom will be fixed at the same time?

Jerry announced the Blessing of the Fleet at the Yacht Club would be June 4 at 11 a.m. He also said the Power Squadron does free safety checks of boats in Ocean Pines upon request and the Coast Guard also does safety checks at Ocean City Harbor. It was suggested that we put out a notice of these checks in the email newsletter "This Week in the Pines" and that during the summer the committee could offer weekly safety tips of some kind for boaters. Jerry said he would put something together on the Blessing of the Fleet.

Dredging - there was a brief discussion on how residents can submit requests for dredging in the canals where they live, and who is responsible for the cost (resident versus Association). Permits are required and apparently the process is long - more than a year. Doug Parks said we should check to make sure of the process and then we could publicize it. There was a question whether the Environmental Committee is looking into this and other matters and agreement that we as a committee should reach out to their chair to find out whether we could work together on this and any other overlapping issues of interest to residents. There was a brief discussion on the current covenants on dredging and the need

to clarify whose purview this issue falls under. Donna agreed to look over the waterfront sections of the bylaws (Section 14?) and report back.

John also said he had received questions from residents about putting lights on some of the bridges in various areas. Jerry said that it would be important to pay attention to the color of the lights and that perhaps DNR should be consulted?

Sue Challis mentioned again the ongoing problems of disrepair of the fencing and signage in the boat ramp parking lot at White Horse Park. Doug Parks said she should forward her complaints as a resident (not as a committee member) and send photos with her comments. Sue agreed to do so.

There was a brief discussion about Robert's Rules of Orders and Doug Parks said that at a recent OPA Board meeting it was suggested that there should be a section added to the Agenda at each meeting on Public Comments -- and that perhaps our advisory committee should also adopt that practice

The next meeting of the Committee will be Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at 10 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Submitted by Sue Challis (acting Secretary) 6/14/22