

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**OPA Environment & Natural Assets Advisory Committee**  
**Wednesday, June 25, 2025, 11:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Room, Administration Building**

**Roll Call**

**Call to Order**

**Approval of Agenda**

**Approval of minutes: April 23, 2025 meeting**

**CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS:**

- Meeting recording reminder
- Cancellation of May meeting
- Welcome new member Jennifer Compston
- Committee member introductions

**OLD BUSINESS**

**OPA 2025 Season Kickoff After Action Report**

- Committee participant observations
- Commitment for 2026 event

**Committee Oyster Gardening Project**

- Volunteers for 3rd quarter cage maintenance?
- Removal of Coastal Bays sign: Should the ENA Committee request funds for a replacement sign?

**South Gate Pond Shoreline Project**

- As was recently reported in the *Bayside Gazette* and *OC Today-Dispatch*, funding for implementation of the plan to address erosion and goose nesting around Ocean Pines' South Gate Pond is stalled due to the uncertain status of federal grant funding. The ENA Committee began discussing the project in 2022 and secured the assistance of the Maryland Coastal Bays Project (MCBP). MCBP provided \$150,000 in grants for the initiative's planning and design, and final concept drawings were received in November 2024. OPA also received a final cost estimate of about \$500,000. That includes \$200,000 to \$250,000 for the submerged gravel wetland, \$100,000 for the fishing area, and \$100,000 to \$150,000 for landscaping. Martin added that the landscaping will also incorporate turtle-specific protection.

**Visit to Horn Point Laboratory**

- The Committee has been discussing a group outing to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore's Horn Point Lab in Cambridge, MD, to see the Atlantic Coast's largest oyster hatchery and exhibits on oceanography, coastal resilience, water quality, and more. Public tours are hosted at 10:00 AM each Tuesday through Labor Day, but parties of five or more are asked to email them in advance. We could request a special tour on our July 23 or August 27 meeting date.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest**

The Ocean Pines Anglers Club has invited the ENA committee to exhibit at their youth fishing contest on Saturday, July 19, at the South Gate Pond. They also invited us to exhibit at their "Teach a Kid to Fish Day" earlier this month but did not provide sufficient notice for us to participate. Last year, ENA did have a table at the "Teach a Kid" day and we handed out coloring books and crayons and displayed proper ways to dispose of fishing gear including the prototype of the gear disposal tubes. There was not a great deal of interest in ENA's table.

## **ADJOURNMENT**