

## MINUTES

### ENVIRONMENT & NATUARAL ASSETS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 30, 2020, 2: PM, at White Horse Park Gazebo

**Present** – Chairman Ken Wolf, Sharon Santocroce, Pat Benner, Paul Fohner, Marty Clarke, and John Maziuk were present and made a quorum. Steve Tuttle attended as Board liaison for Tom Janacek who was out of town on business. Anne O’Connell, Karen Detter, and Susan Holt were excused. Colby Phillips attended as an invited guest representing OPA and Joe Jankowski gave a presentation on the behalf of “The Protectors of the St. Martins River”.

**Call to Order:** – Ken Wolf called the meeting to order at 2: PM.

**Approval of Agenda:** - Motion to approve was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** - The minutes for our last meeting on Wednesday, July 23rd, were approved by a Motion to approve which was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:** None

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Colby reported that our Green Street article is going forward in cooperation with our committee, OPA marketing department, MCBP and ACT. There will be ads leading up to Bay Days also included in newsletter.
- Public Works will be attending to the spraying of the phragmites at the S&R Club starting the following week. The program will include a second treatment as well as the cutting back of the phragmites.
- Steve will follow through with Tom with regard to the testing of the entrance ponds water quality by ACT.
- Steve will follow through with Tom about passing on John’s report on the sewerage effluent to ACT and getting their comments.
- Ken talk with the MCBP try and determine if there is a potential of water quality improvement from oysters in the coastal bays.
- Colby and Paul touched on the progress of our suggested mailbox maintenance and new pavilion improvements. Colby reported that this project is being discussed by the GM in conjunction with the new long range planning committee and should be included in next year’s budget.
- Colby is going to check with Mr. Smith at MCBP to see if there are any open seats on any committee in which one of our committee members could contribute.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Ken introduced our guest, Joe Jankowski who is the head of the Protectors of the St. Martin. Mr. Jankowski gave a very informative up-date on the history and activities of the protectors which boasts 138 members. He highlighted their biggest accomplishments and future goals. He gave a thorough account of the Protectors successful fight against the construction of a CAFO at Peerless Road.

To Ken’s delight Mr. Jankowski spoke at length about the effectiveness of oysters cleaning water in the river and bays. A 3” oyster can filter 50 gallons of water per day. The protectors have been working with MCBP to establish as many Oyster cage operations as possible. Joe has been personally building the cages for sale at cost to waterfront property owners. We are hoping we can get this out to these potential allies through participation at Bay Days and perhaps a Green Street article.

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Mr. Jankowski urged our committee to get the word out to everyone to stop using the product Round Up due to its adverse effect on the bays and river. He also discussed the potential upside related to the spraying of effluent on the golf course.

The Goals for the Protectors of the St. Martin River and our Environment & Natural Assets Advisory have much in common and we all agreed that working together is a good thing for our surrounding waters.

- Ken is seeking direction from Tom Janasek and or the Board regarding guidance concerning future meetings now that outdoor meetings will soon be unfeasible due to changing temperatures. Should we move indoor? Should we consider virtual meetings? If indoors, what are our ground rules?

Adjourn

**NEXT MEETIN WILL BE ON October 28st at 2: OÇLOCK P M at the White Horse Park Gazebo.**

Respectfully submitted by Marty Clarke