

Fenwick Island Environmental Committee (FIEC) Meeting

January 12, 2017

Committee Members Present: Buzz Henefin, Betsy Henefin, Alex Daly, Colleen Wilson, Virginia Childers-Davidson, David Van Kavelaar

Town Representatives Present: None

Guests: Bob Clark

Call to Order: Colleen called the meeting to order at 2:30 and the Pledge of Allegiance was spoken by all. .

Approval of Minutes: A rough draft of the December 1, 2016 was emailed to FIEC members for comments, errors, and corrections on December 1. A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the December 1, 2016 Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes. As there were no objections, corrections, or deletions to the document, the 12/1/16 minutes were unanimously approved.

Canals: There is concern among residents pertaining to canal water depth at any canal's centerline to canal bottom (at low tide). As boating is an asset and drawing card to the town, the FIEC requests that consideration be given to hire a firm to perform the channel depth study and to at least establish a baseline for future channel bottom elevation comparisons. Alex stated that he is unaware of any channel bottom elevation data in the Fenwick's west side canal system's history dating back to the 1950's.

Alex requested, and received a proposal from Gahagan & Bryant Associates, Inc. (GBA) to perform the hydrographic survey. Proposal 1 involved determining water depths along 22,500 linear feet of channel and at about 15 feet on both sides of the channel's centerline but excluding data acquisition at or near the channel bulkhead (\$15,450). Proposal 2 would be to perform the study across the width (bulkhead to bulkhead) and length of the canal system. This methodology enables the calculation of volumes of silt build up to be removed (\$21,500). Proposal 3 involves the calculations for volumes of silt to be removed based on data determined in the study and the parameters (canal depth and width) as established by the town (\$2,200). A motion was made, and approved, for Alex to present to the town council the citizen's concern as to the bay side canal problem concerning silt build up and possibly diminished boating canal widths and the GBA proposal letter. Alex will also contact the Philadelphia branch of the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) to request from them the names of any engineering firm with the capabilities of performing this hydrographic survey. Alex also offered to contact other townships with boat waterways to seek their comments on how they handle canal bottom build up.

Earth Day: The town will hold its second Earth Day on April 22. Changes to be incorporated this year include the changing to laytex gloves, a sign up table outside the town hall, the Earth Day advertising on the town's visual message board and an Earth Day banner on the building, and the shortening of time for debris collection to 90 minutes (9:30 – 11:00). The event will be on the town's web site and our Earth Day announcements will be forwarded to local publications. Colleen will discuss with Staples the Earth Day banner. Colleen said that \$300 has been approved for the FIEC.

Other groups are encouraged to set up a table on the day of our event so the public can get information as to their purposes and goals. Buzz will contact the Center for Inland Bays, Colleen will notify the Barefoot Garden Club, and Betsy will invite the Marine Education, Rescue, and Research folks to see if they wish to participate in Earth Day festivities.

Businesses were gracious in providing participation gifts (as determined by drawing) last year. This year, Virginia stated there should be no problem in donating a metal detector and Colleen will furnish the water. We're hoping Richard Mais will again take care of the donuts. Colleen will prepare a letter to local business folks requesting their

donations of prizes to this community event. Buzz will also encourage the donation of gifts at the next Business Development Committee meeting this month. Alex is aware of a vendor who can print "I got trashed in Fenwick Island" on glass holders or other merchandise.

Pine Wilt Disease Update: Due to the cold weather, any recent pine wilt activity cannot be quantified due to parasitic dormancy or death..

Smoking: We have not received any funding this year from the American Lung Association to promote a smoke free environment on the beach.

New Business: There was none presented during this session..

The next meeting of the FIEC is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 2:30.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:42.

Respectfully submitted,

David Van Kavelaar