

## Fenwick Island Environmental Committee (FIEC) Meeting

November 16, 2017

**Committee Members Present:** Buzz Henifin, Betsy Henifin, Colleen Wilson, David Van Kavelaar, Mary Ellen Langan, Roy Williams, Virginia Childers-Davidson

**Town Representatives In Attendance:** Town Manager Terry Tieman, Linda Martin

**Guests:** None

**Call to Order:** Mary Ellen called the meeting to order at 2:36 and the Pledge of Allegiance was spoken by all.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the October 5, 2017 meeting were emailed to FIEC members for comments, errors, and corrections on October 8. A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the October 2017 Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes as prepared.

**New Members:** The FIEC has two new members. Andrew Adkins (East Houston Street) and Amy Kyle (San Francisco) have joined our ranks. Ms. Kyle inquired as to her joining our meeting via teleconferencing measures. Mary Ellen said we should be able to accommodate her request.

**Earth Day Discussion:** At the next FI council meeting, Mary Ellen will be soliciting for a sponsor to fund the cost of an enlarged Earth Day banner. There has been \$300 budgeted for FIEC usage to purchase items pertaining to our Earth Day program. There are some "got trashed" bags left over from last April's event and they were quite well received by participants of the clean-up program. If a sponsor for the banner steps forward, the budgeted FIEC monies could be used for hats, shirts, or other items for our clean-up participants. The 2018 Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 21.

Beach replenishment, originally scheduled for this autumn, has been rescheduled for January. It is the responsibility of the dredging/replenishment firm to perform the dune grass planting (under DNREC's direction). Depending on the completion date of the FI beach replenishment, volunteers may be required to perform the plantings in March. Roy mentioned that last year's dune grass planting program could have been more successful had the volunteers been more knowledgeable on the method of inserting the grass plug into the dune. The DNREC representative who over saw last year's program is Jen Luomo and she will be contacted by a FIEC member for her involvement in the 2018 dune grass planting day. Roy will request FISH (Fenwick Island Society of Homeowners) put a blurb in their Spring publication mentioning the dune grass planting date to entice our residents and others to participate in that endeavor.

**Diseased Trees:** Mary Ellen has made a list of addresses on the east side of Coastal Highway where diseased trees are present. The accumulation of affected residences on the bay side is a work in progress.

**Dredging/ACT:** During October's council meeting, a Fenwick Island dredging committee was formed that includes the FIEC's Alex Daly. Regionally, ACT (Association of Coastal Towns) is a body of mayors of coastal towns from Lewes to Fenwick Island and is charged with developing a comprehensive plan to address dredging concerns pertaining to coast lines, bays, and the ocean. ACT is holding a meeting at the Lewes Town Hall on November 17 at 10:00. Senators Coons and Carper, or their representatives, have been invited to attend.

**Old Business:** Last year's statewide coastal clean-up netted 3.8 tons of trash and 16,158 cigarette butts. We do not have the American Lung Association funding this year as in the past but we will clean out the tobacco receptacles a few times in the summer.

**New Business:** Coleen invited all to join the Friends of Fenwick who perform roadside clean up three times a year along Coastal Highway from mile markers 1 to 3 on the north and south bound shoulders. It was also suggested that the FIEC expand the Earth Day clean up to include those roads in the unincorporated zone from Atlantic Avenue to Route 54.

The next meeting of the FIEC is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2018. Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:17.

Respectfully submitted,

David Van Kavelaar