



Mary Vavra

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cc:

Subject: Meeting Reminder

This is a reminder that the next meeting of the River Council is **November 20th** at 7PM at the Fox Nature Center. Please come prepared to give a status report on any project in your municipality funded with River Council support. A discussion about these projects will take place during the meeting in an effort to get a handle on whether projects can or cannot be successfully completed. Meeting Minutes from the October meeting are attached for your use and information.

The following is a tentative agenda for the November 20th meeting. Please let Rick Coe or myself know if you have any additions.

Thanks,
Mary

Great Egg Harbor NS&R River Council Meeting Agenda November 20th

Call to Order
Roll Call
Approval of Minutes
Old Business

↑ Motion No Mark Bill (1st 2nd Creed mark Argent Keep Door Open no financial assist, another presentation) ↓

- 1 - Discussion of NJ Naval Militia
- 2 - Status Report on projects sponsored by the River Council
- 3 - Reconnaissance Trip with NJDEP and Pinelands Commission
- 4 - Update on WMA #15 activities and TMDL issue
- 5 - Hamilton Township Zoning Update

New Business

- 6 - Monroe Twp. Septic issue
- 7 - River Administrator's Report
- 8 - Letters to Mayors re: new appointments to River Council

Public Portion
Adjournment



October Council minutes.d

Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreation River
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2002

Meeting Called to Order at 7:10PM by Rick Coe

Roll Call by Belinda Irizarry

Board Members in Attendance: Julie Akers, Rick Coe, Bill Christman, Dick Colby, Bill Egan, Greg Gregory, Andrew Mair, Creed Pogue, Joel Spiegel, Marc Thyrring

Board Members Absent: Bob Almeda, Keith Kendrix

Others Present: Fred Akers (River Administrator), Belinda Irizarry (Secretary), Mary Vavra (National Park Service), Gary from Hidden Mill Marina

Proceedings

Rick Coe stated that the meeting was advertised pursuant to the NJ Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Notices were sent to official publications for the River Council – The Courier Post and The Press of Atlantic City. A copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Fox Nature Center and the Atlantic County Library in Mays Landing. An Affidavit of publication from the Courier Post was received.

Approval of minutes

A motion was made by Bill Christman to approve the minutes from the October 16th meeting. The motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

New Jersey Militia Discussion

- Fred Akers provided information about possible scenarios as to how the militia could be used and what the cost might be. A discussion ensued as to whether the services offered by the militia were necessary and how enforcement should occur on the tidal portion of the river. A motion was made by Marc Thyrring to send a letter to the NJ Militia saying thank you but there is no need of their services. Bill Egan seconded the motion. Roll Call: Julie Akers - no; Bill Christman - No; Rick Coe – yes; Dick Colby – No; Bill Egan – yes; Greg Gregory – No; Andrew Mair - yes; Creed Pogue – No; Joel Spiegel – No; Marc Thyrring – yes. Motion failed.
- Creed Pogue made a motion to send a letter to the NJ Militia thanking them for the presentation, but stating that due to funding constraints, the River Council is declining their offer to fund their endeavor at this time. However, if they manage to secure additional funding on their own they are welcome to make another presentation to the River Council to discuss a non-financial partnership. Marc Thyrring seconded the motion. Roll call Vote: Julie Akers - yes; Bill Christman - yes; Rick Coe – no; Dick Colby – no; Bill Egan – no; Greg Gregory – no; Andrew Mair - no; Creed Pogue – yes; Joel Spiegel – no; Marc Thyrring – yes. Motion failed.
- Joel Spiegel made a motion to invite the militia to pursue their interest in assessing the cost for barge removal. Greg Gregory seconded the motion. Roll call: Julie Akers - yes; Bill Christman - yes; Rick Coe – yes; Dick Colby – yes; Bill Egan – yes; Greg Gregory – yes; Andrew Mair - yes; Creed Pogue – yes; Joel Spiegel – yes; Marc Thyrring – yes. Motion carried.

- Greg Gregory made a motion to thank the NJ Militia and tell them we are definitely interested in barge removal; however, at this time we are not able to fund their enforcement proposal. Andrew Mair seconded the motion. Roll Call: Julie Akers - yes; Bill Christman - yes; Rick Coe - yes; Dick Colby - yes; Bill Egan - yes; Greg Gregory - yes; Andrew Mair - yes; Creed Pogue - yes; Joel Spiegel - yes; Marc Thyrring - yes. Motion carried. Mary Vavra will draft the letter for Rick's signature.

River Council Projects

Members provided a status report on projects that were sponsored/funded by the River Council and authorized under Resolution 8-2001.

- *Footbridge in Monroe Twp.* - Rick Coe stated that the proposal he received from the town engineer did not quite address what was expected for the area. Rick will go back to the engineer to further define the project. Julie Akers made a motion to hold the funds in place for Monroe Township to allow time to secure a better proposal. Greg Gregory seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- *Somers Point Projects* - Greg Gregory stated that the three signs Somers Point expected to receive from Atlantic County have not yet been received. Greg anticipates that the costs associated with the signs will be lower than anticipated. The Somers Point slope stabilization project was delayed due to drought conditions, but the work will move forward. Creed Pogue made a motion to keep the money in place for Somers Point. The motion was seconded by Julie Akers. Motion carried.
- *Web Site Development* - A motion was made by Bill Egan to release the funds for the web site development due to inactivity. Julie Akers seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- *Plantings in Weymouth and Estell Manor* - A motion was made by Creed Pogue to delete the funding for this project. Motion was seconded by Julie Akers. Motion carried.
- *Deep Run Project* - Julie Akers made a motion that since there has been no action on this project, the funds should be returned. Motion was seconded by Creed Pogue. Motion carried.
- *Dead Horse Run* - Marc Thyrring stated that the engineer has been working on this stabilization project. Marc will follow-up on the project and report back at the next meeting. A motion was made by Marc Thyrring to hold funding for this project. The motion was seconded by Creed Pogue. Motion carried.
- *Adopt-A-Stream* - This project has been completed and funds were expended.
- *Gauging Station* - Dick Colby stated that the costs of the project are too expensive and it is unlikely to go forward. Creed Pogue made a motion to return the funding which was seconded by Greg Gregory. Motion carried.
- *Watershed Awareness Signs* - Greg Gregory has been working on this project and has made significant progress. A motion was made by Creed Pogue to continue funds. The motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. Motion carried. Belinda Irizarry updated members about additional watershed signs proposed by NJDEP.

Clean Community Projects

- Andrew Mair and Greg Gregory stated that the proposed projects funded for Winslow Township and Somers Point will not be going forward. Creed Pogue made a motion that the \$1,000 advance given to Winslow Township be refunded to the River Council and the balance of funds set aside for the Township (\$1,000) be cancelled. In addition, the \$2,000 set aside for Somers Point will also be cancelled. Greg Gregory seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Bill Christman stated that Hamilton Township will be pursuing their project funded through the River Council. A motion to maintain funding was made by Julie Akers and seconded by Greg Gregory. Motion carried.

Reconnaissance Trip with NJDEP and Pinelands Commission

After several cancellations due to weather, a canoe reconnaissance trip finally took place on October 25th. The purpose of the trip was to look at permit violations along the non-tidal portion of the river in the Borough of Folsom. The trip was organized by Mary Vavra and Fred and Julie Akers. Representatives from the NJDEP Enforcement Office, Pinelands Commission, River Council, and the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, as well as from the National Park Service, and GEHWA participated. The violations were significant and will be reviewed by NJDEP enforcement and the Pinelands Commission to determine the most appropriate follow-up. Mary Vavra will be sending a letter to NJDEP and the Pinelands Commission thanking them and asking them for a status report on what their approach will be to resolve the violations.

River Administrator's Report

Fred Akers reported on the following topics:

- *WMA #15* – NJDEP funding decisions are still pending. Fred is working with NJDEP on water quality issues and how to address fecal coliform TMDLs. There are four segments in watershed that have fecal/coliform problems. Fred will continue to coordinate with NJDEP on this issue.
- *Hamilton Township* - Fred indicated that the Hamilton Township Zoning board has not yet published their resolution on the zoning variance granted to Michael Cokenakas in the Pinelands Protection Area. It is anticipated that the resolution will be available by the end of the month. Bill Christman provided an update on the activities of the Planning Board sub committee that has been working to resolve issues in the river corridor. Initial ordinances were prepared for the Town Committee to take better control of activities in the river corridor. The sub committee divided the river into 4 sections; the non tidal area from the Folsom Borough border to Weymouth Furnace; Weymouth Furnace to Lake Lenape; Lake Lenape; and fourth is the tidal section within Hamilton Township's jurisdiction.

Due to water quality and existing county regulations, the sub committee recommended that tubing and swimming activities not be permitted from Folsom to Weymouth Furnace. This has been designated by the State as a non-primary contact area based on fecal coliform levels. The sub committee recommended that this area continue to be used for canoeing and kayaking. Hamilton Township's Environmental Commission and Planning Board unanimously approved the sub committee's recommendations. On December 2nd, the sub committee will present its recommendations to the Town Committee. Tubing will be permitted from Weymouth Furnace to Lake Lenape and will be conducted according to existing County rules. At Lake Lenape, County rules will apply. The tidal section will be reviewed in 2003 by the sub committee which will explore construction issues in the river corridor. A licensing process for liveries will be pursued. In addition, Hamilton

Township's revised Local River Management Plan will indicate that there will be no more new public access points in Hamilton Township.

Monroe Township Septic – Fred Akers was contacted by a resident in Monroe Township questioning how a septic company could be permitted to operate on a property in the Township. Fred inspected the property and stated that the residents attended a meeting expressing concern over how the septic company was able to secure zoning approvals from the Township without going to the Pinelands Commission. Chuck Horner from Pinelands Commission sent a letter to the property owner regarding the zoning and stated that the permission received from the Township was void and that he was required to go to Pinelands Commission for review/approval. Creed Pogue made a motion to authorize Fred Akers to send a letter to the Pinelands Commission reinforcing their questioning of this issue and asking to receive additional information on this property. Fred would also ask the Zoning Board for an explanation regarding this issue. Motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. Motion carried.

New Business

Reappointments

Mary Vavra mentioned that tenure of a few river council members will be ending in February 2003 and suggested that letters be sent to the appropriate mayors to either reappointment or appoint a member to participate. A motion was made by Greg Gregory to send a letter to the appropriate mayors asking for replacements and informing them of the progress the River Council has made in the last two years. Mary Vavra will draft the letter for Rick Coe's signature.

Egg Harbor Township Issue – Marc Thyrring stated that he had not heard any new information on the ATV issue in the Township. Marc will find out what is happening and report back at the next meeting.

Acquisitions - Greg Gregory reported that Somers Point recently acquired a parcel that will provide additional open space.

Public Portion

Greg Gregory made a motion which was seconded by Joel Spiegel to open the meeting to the public. Gary from Hidden Mill Marina discussed issues along the river corridor that he felt needed to be addressed. Council members provided information and asked for Gary's assistance in identifying other issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM.

Existing Cooperative Agreements

Status Report

January 2, 2003

<u>Cooperative Agreement</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>
Atlantic County - \$86,500 Total	12/31/02	\$6,848.36
- GIS Mapping - \$26,500		
- Exhibit Development \$15,000		
- Dock Study \$10,000		
- Historic Structure Report for Estell Manor Mansion - \$35,000		
Buena Vista Township - \$2,000	12/31/97	COMPLETE
- Develop Local River Management Plan		
Corbin City - \$3,000	12/31/98	COMPLETE
- Develop Local River Management Plan		
Egg Harbor Township - \$8,000	12/31/01	\$ 0
- Develop Local River Management Plan		
Estell Manor - \$6,500	12/31/01	\$ 0
- Develop Local River Management Plan		
Borough of Folsom - \$6,000	08/02/00	COMPLETE
- Develop Local River Management Plan		
Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association- Total \$286,300	12/31/04	\$113,300
- Develop Local River Mgt. Planning Guidelines, etc. \$25,000 - done		
- Assist local municipalities \$30,000 - done		
- Assist in development of CMP/EIS \$10,000 - done		
- Develop education/outreach programs \$54,500 -		
- Develop a public education video & water monitoring program \$22,000 - done		
- Continue public outreach \$26,000		
- Fish Ladder Education Exhibit \$ 9,800 - done		
- River Council Funds \$30,000 - projects underway		
- GEHWA & River Council \$14,500/each \$29,000 - River Adm.		
- River Council Funds (2/02) \$50,000		
Hamilton Township - \$55,000	6/30/02	Completed
- Develop Local River Mgt. Plan \$ 8,000		
- Additional river protection work \$10,000		
- River Police Project \$37,000		
Town of Hammonton \$2,000	12/31/97	0 - Funds deobligated
- Develop Local River Mgt. Plan		
Monroe Township \$5,000	12/31/99	COMPLETE
- Develop Local River Mgt. Plan		
Somers Point \$3,000	12/31/97	COMPLETE
- Develop Local River Management Plan		
Upper Township \$ 5,000	12/31/98	COMPLETE
- Develop Local River Mgt. Plan		

Cooperative Agreement

Expiration Date

Balance Remaining

Weymouth Township \$17,000

12/31/02

\$ 0

- Develop Local River Management Plan \$ 7,000 - completed
- Research Study of 259-acre peninsula \$10,000 - completed

Winslow Township \$4,500

3/31/2000

\$0 - Funds Deobligated

- Develop Local River Mgt. Plan