



Mary Vavra

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EST

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cc:

Subject: Revised Agenda for February 20th

The following agenda will be used for the February 20th Reorganization Meeting of the Great Egg Harbor NS&R River Council.

**Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River Council
Reorganization Meeting Agenda
February 20, 2002**

I. Call to Order

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq. Notices were placed in the official publications for the River Council -- The Press of Atlantic City and The Courier Post. A copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Atlantic County Library in Mays Landing and the Fox Nature Center in Estell Manor.

Roll Call of River Council Members

II. Nomination and Election of Officers of the River Council

- A. Chair *Rick*
- B. Vice Chair/Treasurer *Dick*
- C. Secretary *Belinda*

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 16, 2002

1st Dick 2nd Gregg

IV. Resolutions

- R:01-2002 Resolution Designating Depository of Funds and Authorized Signatures on River Council Account *Fleet bank*
- R:02-2002 Resolution Designating Official Publications of the River Council
- R:03-2002 Resolution and Notice of Meetings of the River Council
- R:04-2002 Resolution Creating Subcommittees of the River Council and Naming the Chair and Members Thereof.
- R:05-2002 Resolution Authorizing Employment of River Administrator. *- approve Fred as Administrator 1st Creed 2nd Greg new resolution 05-2002*

V. Old Business

- Reappointment letter to each municipality (except: Hammonton, Estell Manor & Winslow Twp.)
- Followup on action items from January 16th meeting
 - River Council letter to the US Army Corps of Engineers re: enforcement
 - River Council letter re: Weymouth Furnace bridge *- letter rec'd from Dennis Levinson 2/13/02*
 - River Council letter re: amended CAFRA rules plus update on CAFRA rule *- Maurice doesn't agree 2/27 meeting 2:00pm*

amendment

- River Administrator Position *approved*

Rick, Fred, Julie

approved

- Fish Study (distribute copies) - Mary passed out 3 copies of fish study
- Update on Egg Harbor Township's Master Plan - no update - revision in process

VI. New Business

- Budget information from Dick Colby, Treasurer ^{\$45,000 funds need to be approved for projects}
- River Rally scheduled for May 17-21st in Asheville, North Carolina - ^{March 27th Deadline}
- Discussion of funding options/priorities ^{(10/1/01 to 9/31/02) \$45,000 to 50,000}

← Motion 1st ~~Bill~~ 2nd Gregor 1 member
Rick will choose from River Council

VII Reports

no increase in 2007 budget

VIII. Public Portion

IX. Adjournment

Greg working on sign project of ^{prof.} person working "probono"

Insurance - volunteer insurance min \$300.00

Send a letter for interest in river cleanups (money + support) up to \$2000.00
1st Dick 2nd Gregg

Pump out stations - where are they? how many? try and get a no-discharge zone enforced

NPS P - Whitman

PSA - Greg + Gregg's ^{est.} 30 second spot \$1200.00 2 15 sec. #

Dick - Dr. French Spungs ^{3/6} wed 8:00

Joel - Thank yous to position applc.

February 11th, 2002

To: River Council Members

This is a reminder that the next meeting of the River Council is set for **February 20th** at 7PM at the Fox Nature Center in Estell Manor Park. This is the annual meeting for the River Council. If you have anything to add to the agenda, or are unable to attend the meeting, please call either Rick Coe or myself.

Thanks,

Mary Vavra (215) 597-9175

**Great Egg Harbor National Scenic
And Recreational River Council
February 20th Meeting Agenda**

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Old Business

- Letter sent to the Courier Post and The Press of Atlantic City re: annual meeting
- Reappointment letter to each municipality (except: Hammonton, Estell Manor and Winslow Twp)
- Followup on action items from January 16th meeting
 - River Council letter to US Army Corps of Engineers re: enforcement
 - River Council letter re: Weymouth Furnace bridge
 - River Council letter re: amended CAFRA rules plus update on CAFRA rule amendment
- River Administrator Position
- Fish Study (distribute copies)
- Update on Egg Harbor Township's Master Plan

New Business

- Budget Information from Dick Colby, Treasurer
- River Rally scheduled for May 17-21st in Asheville, North Carolina
- Discussion of funding options/priorities

**Public Portion
Adjournment**

Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River Council
Annual Reorganization Meeting
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2002

Meeting called to order at 7:15PM by Mary Vavra

Roll Call by Belinda Irizarry

Board Members in Attendance: Julie Akers, Evelyn Brauenig (Alternative for Hamilton Township), Rick Coe, Dick Colby, Bill Egan, Gregory Gregory, Creed Pogue, Joel Spiegel, Marc Thyrring, Bill Zapisek

Board Members Absent: Bill Christman (scheduling conflict); Eric Fooder, Robert Almeda

Quorum Present? Yes

Others Present: Fred Akers, Belinda Irizarry (Alternate from GEHWA), Jim Parsio and John Brudon (Alternates from Estell Manor) and Mary Vavra, (National Park Service)

Proceedings

Belinda Irizarry 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.

Nomination and Election of Officers of the River Council

- A. **Chair** - Creed Pogue nominated Rick Coe as Chairperson of the River Council. The motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. Motion carried unanimously
- B. **Vice Chair/Treasurer** - Creed Pogue nominated Dick Colby as Vice Chair/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. **Secretary** - Julie Akers nominated Belinda Irizarry as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Joel Spiegel. Motion carried unanimously

Resolutions

Creed Pogue made a motion to approve resolutions R:01-2002; R:02-2002; R:03-2002; and R:04-2002. Rick Coe mentioned that the name of the bank should be included in the resolution. The name of depository on appropriate resolutions should be Fleet bank. The motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. Roll call vote: Julie Akers, yes; Rick Coe, yes; Dick Colby, yes; Bill Egan, yes; Gregory Gregory, yes; Creed Pogue, yes; Joel Spiegel, yes; Marc Thyrring, yes; Bill Zapisek, yes; Evelyn Brauenig, yes. Motion carried unanimously

Resolution 05:2002: A motion was made by Bill Egan to approve R:05-2002 appointing Fred Akers as River Administrator. The motion was seconded by Dick Colby. Dick Colby stated that an initial subcommittee made up of representatives from both the River Council and GEHWA went through 8 applications and made recommendations for five applicants to be interviewed. A separate subcommittee with representation from both organizations conducted interviews on January 29th at the Fox Nature Center with the five recommended applicants. A list of questions was developed and used in each interview. It was a unanimous consensus to recommend Fred Akers for the River Administrator position. Greg Gregory stated that there were five qualified applicants, but the interview subcommittee felt that Fred Akers had the true desire to work on the river and his past involvement and experience made him an excellent choice. : Questions arose regarding the benefit of hiring the River Administrator as an independent contractor or as an employee. Creed Pogue made a motion to appoint Fred Akers as River Administrator now and clarify the issue of contractor versus employee by the next River Council meeting. The start date of Fred's position as River Administrator will start upon the approval of the GEHWA Board. The motion was seconded by Dick Colby. Roll call vote: Julie Akers, abstain; Rick Coe, yes; Dick Colby, yes; Bill Egan, yes; Gregory Gregory, yes; Creed Pogue, yes; Joel Spiegel, yes; Marc Thyrring, yes; Bill Zapisek, yes; Evelyn Brauenig, yes; Motion carried with one abstaining vote.

Approval of Minutes from January 16, 2002

Dick Colby made a motion to approve the January 16, 2002 minutes. Greg Gregory seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Reappointment Letters to Mayors. Mary Vavra stated that letters went to the mayors of nine municipalities outlining the progress of the River Council and also requesting the re-nomination of the representative for another 2 years or acknowledgement that there was one year left on the term. The letters stated that the term of present members would expire in January 2003 if a new 2-year nomination were not received from the mayor. Only Somers Point and Weymouth Township responded to date. Rick Coe recommended that members who have not yet been reappointed by their mayors to follow through on this issue.

Followup on Action Items from January 16th meeting

Letters from the River Council were sent to:

- US Army Corps of Engineers regarding enforcement
- Atlantic County and NJDEP re: Weymouth Furnace bridges &
- NJDEP regarding the proposed CAFRA rules

Mary Vavra brought members up to date on the proposed CAFRA rules. There have been significant concerns expressed about the proposed rules by a Maurice River contingent. A meeting with NJDEP was arranged for January 27th at 2PM to hear the concerns of the Maurice River folk. Rick Coe, Julie Akers, and Fred Akers will also be attending this meeting.

Rick Coe received a letter from Atlantic County regarding the Weymouth County Bridge. The County stated that it would make every effort to include public in workshops on this issue.

Great Egg Harbor Fisheries Study - Mary Vavra distributed copies of the final report on the fish study conducted in the river in 1998-1999.

Egg Harbor Township Master Plan - Julie Akers stated that there were quite a few revisions/deletions to the master plan. It is anticipated that the township will adopt a final copy of the river management section with revisions relatively soon.

New Business

Budget Information - Dick Colby stated that the River Council has \$45,000 authorized for spending on the special projects approved at previous meetings. Individuals responsible for each project should prepare a final budget and provide the name of the person responsible for completing each municipal project prior to the initiation of work.

Greg Gregory stated that he was in touch with the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) regarding their signs and has a designer interested in providing pro bono services. Greg will proceed with the signage project.

River Rally - Mary Vavra stated that the annual Northeast rivers workshop would not be taking place due to scheduling conflicts. The National Park Service is offering to pay the expenses for two representatives from each designated river in the Northeast to attend the May 17-21 River Rally in Asheville, North Carolina. A partnership meeting with northeast rivers would be held at the rally. Motion made by Gregory Gregory to approve one member from the river council to attend the river rally. Motion was seconded by Bill Egan. Motion carried unanimously. Any River Council representative interested in attending the River Rally should let Rick Coe know as soon as possible.

Discussion of Funding Priorities. Mary Vavra stated that an additional \$50,000 would be made available to the River Council this year to support activities in the river corridor. A discussion about the need to coordinate the budget with GEHWA ensued. Dick Colby, Fred Akers, Belinda Irizarry and Julie Akers will meet on February 26th to work together to coordinate budget and project selections for GEHWA and the River Council. Mary Vavra will check on GEHWA reimbursements through an existing Cooperative Agreement.

Insurance - Julie Akers checked out GEHWA's insurance policy and reported that a general liability policy of \$2 million is in place in conjunction with several other nonprofit organizations. Individual members are not covered. There is a volunteer accident policy which is \$2.27 per member which Julie will be looking into. The easiest way for GEHWA and the River Council to sponsor river cleanups is to provide funding for Clean Communities or municipalities so that they can sponsor the events. A motion was made by Greg Gregory for the River Council to send a letter to the Mayor and Business Administrator of each municipality to determine interest in sponsoring a river cleanup with a grant from the River Council that can range to \$2,000. The grant could tie in with the Clean Communities Program. The motion was seconded by Bill Egan. Motion carried unanimously.

Greg Gregory mentioned that he was at the Atlantic City sportsmen's show and that there was an information table with pump out station material. Fred Akers mentioned that the need for a "No Discharge Zone" and pump out stations are being

considered as a project for the WMA #15 area by NJDEP and Atlantic County.

Greg Gregory also mentioned that Christie Whitman recently talked about nonpoint source pollution and the existence of EPA grants for watershed groups that can demonstrate that they have plans to abate non point source pollution. Greg suggested that this opportunity be pursued.

Greg Gregory mentioned the value of Public Service Announcements (PSA). At the request of Greg Gregory, Greg Vizzi provided an estimate on the cost of producing a PSA. The approximate cost for producing a 30-second and two, 15-second spots is \$1,200. Discussion on this opportunity will continue.

Dick Colby mentioned that GEHWA sponsored research in the Great Egg Harbor Watershed with Dr Hugh French and Mark Demetroff. The research centered on spongs in the Pine Barrens. A formal paper was published regarding their findings. There is an informal meeting scheduled on Wednesday evening, March 6th, where Dr. French and Mark Demetroff will discuss their findings. Let Dick Colby know if any river council member is interested in attending.

Mary Vavra mentioned that thank you notes would be sent to all River Administrator applicants.

Public Comment

A motion was made by Dick Colby to open the meeting to the public. Julie seconded the motion. Motion carried. No members of the public were in attendance. The public portion was closed on a motion made by Dick Colby and seconded by Julie Akers.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20PM by Rick Coe.