

Mary Vavra

07/06/2001 07:27 AM
EDT

To: JSPIE@KIMKON.COM, rcoe@weirpartners.com,
WEGAN10072@CS.COM, Dick.Colby@stockton.edu,
Csp066@aol.com, AKERS@GOWEBWAY.COM,
bchristmanriverbankstudio@worldnet.att.net, WZapisek@Plexi.com,
MARC.THYRRING@FAA.GOV, Hoganpho@Conectiv.net

cc:
Subject: June Meeting Minutes

Attached are the meeting minutes from June for the Great Egg Harbor River Council.

Remember that the next meeting of the River Council is scheduled for **July 18th** from 7-9PM at the Fox Nature Center. If you cannot attend, please call Rick Coe. I will be out of the office on travel for work from July 8th through the 16th (possibly the 17th, as well) and unavailable to answer questions.

Also, remember there will be a discussion at the next meeting about potential uses for Wild and Scenic River funding and action items for the WMA #15 planning effort. Please bring your ideas and suggestions.

The following is a tentative agenda for the next meeting. Unfortunately, I did not have time to run this by Rick Coe, so there will probably be additions. If you have any discussion items to add, please give them to Rick so that he can include them.

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes from June 20th River Council Meeting

2nd Bill E.

Old Business

- Update on NJDEP offer to provide individual permit consultations on August 22nd - reviewed letter
- Discussion on non-profit status and other river-related organizations - Creed - 501C3
- Update on WMA #15 activities -

Steering Comm. meeting

Attn. Co.

Scoop key - Coar.

Vision Statement - DEP

Issue List

Julie - thru WS, more info from Center for Nonprofits

New Business

- Discussion of Potential Projects
- Pending Permits

Public Portion - Creed Julie

Adjournment (breakout into committees) Creed Julie

9:20pm

Focus Group - Sept.
Action Now Projects

Rick sent letters to other Co.'s for input

Have a good weekend!

Mary

JuneRiverCouncil.minutes.doc

Potential Projects

Invasive Species

Local nav. channel

Storm Drain (Rt. 559)

Test water for Brown Foam - Water Quality Monitoring - DEP Hotline - Conisus College Buffalo, NY

BATS Program

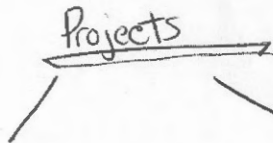
\$50 - Small Library - 1st Creed motion Approved 2nd Joel

Literature Screen website Whole River

Flyer (Ethics) awareness - signs

No dis charge zone (boat)

Zoning Ordinance Time Set aside



Join w/ WS

Part-time Administrator or Executive Director

Julie

Job Description + \$

Mary Vavra
07/30/2001 08:20 AM
EDT

To: JSPIE@KIMKON.COM, rcoe@weirpartners.com,
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MARC.THYRRING@FAA.GOV, Hoganpho@Conectiv.net

cc:
Subject: July Meeting Minutes

Attached are the minutes from the July meeting of the River Council. Since we have been having significant problems with our e-mail system, I will also be sending these minutes by regular mail.

Remember that the next meeting is scheduled for August 15th. If you cannot make that meeting, please call either Rick Coe or myself at (215) 597-9175.

Thanks,

Mary



JulyRiveCouncil.meeting.dc

**Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River Council
Meeting Minutes for July 18, 2001**

Meeting called to order at 7:40PM by Chairperson, Rick Coe

Roll Call by the Secretary, Belinda Irizarry

Board Members in Attendance: Julie Akers, Bill Christman, Rick Coe, Bill Egan, Creed Pogue, Joel Spiegel, Marc Thyrring, Bill Zapisek

Board Members Absent: Dick Colby (out of town for the summer), Eric Fooder, Gregory Gregory, Robert Manzi

Quorum Present? Yes

Others Present: Belinda Irizarry (Alternate from GEHWA); and Mary Vavra (National Park Service)

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 for June 20th

Creed Pogue made a motion to approve the minutes. Bill Egan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

Mary Vavra confirmed the August 22nd date for the NJDEP individual consultations for waterfront property owners in the designated river corridor. The draft letter prepared by Mary was reviewed by council members with a suggestion that a sentence be added indicating that the letter should be shared with other neighbors that may have an interest in attending the August consultation sessions. The revised letter will be mailed to approximately 550 waterfront property owners by July 20th.

Rick Coe stated that at the last meeting the group discussed nonprofit status for the River Council to organize it as a separate corporation. Mary Vavra presented organizational information about other River Councils for guidance. Discussion ensued. Julie Akers will ask the Center for Nonprofits for advice and guidance. For right now, council will continue to operate under its existing structure, with funding through GEHWA.

Julie Akers reported on the recent Steering Committee meeting for WMA #15. The Steering Committee is predominantly Atlantic County based. Skoop Kaye is the coordinator of the WMA #15 planning effort. The group is developing a vision statement and a list of issues. The Steering Committee will determine which issues are appropriate to pursue, classify them into different categories, and present issues at focus group meetings. Next focus group meetings should be in September. Atlantic County must have their preliminary list of issues and "action now" projects by October as well as open space acquisition recommendations to protect critical areas. The Atlantic County web site should have updated information. Rick Coe mentioned that he sent a letter to Camden and Gloucester County officials as well as the Monroe Township Environmental Commission to tell them about the River Council and recommend their involvement in planning for WMA #15.

Council members discussed potential "Action Now" recommendations:

- Addressing invasive species in the watershed
- Defining and formally establishing a local navigational channel in the Great Egg Harbor River
- Addressing storm water runoff down route 559 and other areas

- Testing for water quality and monitoring (Mark mentioned the existence of a brown foam on the river. Mark will work with Bill Zapisek to determine the nature of the substance)

New Business

Council members discussed potential projects to be funded by the River Council with the \$44,500 provided by the National Park Service this fiscal year. The following suggestions were made:

- Projects should be river-wide
- Funding should be earmarked for municipalities such as watershed awareness initiatives (signage, education, sponsorship of events)
- Hire a jointly-funded Administrator/Executive Director for both GEHWA and the River Council. Julie will put together a job description and funding estimate for an Executive Director position which will be reviewed/discussed again at the next meeting.
- Develop a mechanism to get more people involved – adopt a section of the watershed and then taking the data and using it.
- Provide education projects that are aimed for each community. Those projects, combined with boat trips and signage, should provide an education base.
- Develop a river guide that provides a map of the river, including the non-tidal portion and areas for portage. The guide could include a river code of ethics as well as safety tips and public rest stops.
- Consider using Canisius College in Buffalo, NY to provide water testing for group. Bill Zapisek will determine the level of interest of the College and report back to members at next meeting.
- Review the listing of recommendations in both Local River Management Plans and the Comprehensive Management Plan for the Great Egg Harbor River to develop a project priority list.

Julie Akers suggested that when River Council members attend local meetings within their municipalities they should mention Atlantic County's WMA#15 planning effort and request suggestions for "Action Now" projects pertinent to their municipality. Julie also mentioned that GEHWA has funding for potential projects.

Bill Zapisek recommended establishing a small technical library that includes ways and standards for different types of marine environments. Bill will put together a listing of potential acquisitions that will provide information that would not be quickly outdated. He will present the list to council members at the next meeting. A motion was made by Creed Pogue to authorize expenditure of funds up to \$50 to do a literature search. Joel Spiegel seconded motion. Roll Call Vote: Julie Akers, yes; Bill Christman, yes; Rick Coe, yes; Bill Egan, yes; Creed Pogue, yes; Joel Spiegel, yes; Marc Thyrring, yes. Bill Zapisek abstained from voting. Motion carried.

To make it easier to conduct meetings at the Fox Nature Center, Rick Coe will write a letter to Atlantic County requesting that the Council be given a key to the Center. Rick will also request the use of a file cabinet that will be used for River Council-related documents.

Pending Permits - Mary Vavra mentioned that NJDEP forwarded a letter of denial to Mr. Mark Norell on July 13th regarding the legalization of a dock/gazebo that was constructed without appropriate state and federal permits. Copies of this letter will be sent to River Council members by July 20th.

Mary Vavra distributed a copy of a NJ State Appeals Court decision regarding zoning rule changes to limit development in environmentally sensitive areas.

Public Comment

Creed Pogue made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Motion seconded by Julie Akers. No members of the public were in attendance. Motion to close public portion made by Creed and seconded by Julie Akers. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 by Rick Coe.

New Business
Council members discussed potential project to be funded by the River Council with the \$44,000 provided by the National Park Service this fiscal year. The following suggestions were made:

- Project should be river-wide.
- Funding should be restricted for municipalities such as watershed awareness initiatives (e.g., education, interpretive events).
- This is jointly-funded Administrative/Executive Director for both GRWA and the River Council. This will be a joint position and funding estimate for an Executive Director position which will be reviewed/discussed again at the next meeting.
- Develop a mechanism to get more people involved - select a section of the watershed and then select the site and create a...
- Develop a river guide that provides a map of the river including the 500-foot position and must be accurate. The guide could include river mile markers as well as safety tips and public use tips.
- Council will determine the level of support of the Council and select date to meet at next meeting.
- Review the history of recommendations in both local River Administration Plans and the Council's historical plan for the local River Council to develop a project...

Julie Adams suggested that when River Council meets it should meet locally through when their municipalities they should consider whether Council is WA's's working effort and region's suggestions for "Action Now" projects partners to their municipalities. This also mentioned that GRWA has funding for potential projects.

Bill Zank recommended that a list of potential projects that includes water and includes for different types of meeting opportunities. Bill will get together a list of potential opportunities that will provide information that would not be available. He will present the list to Council members at the next meeting. A meeting was held by Council to determine opportunities of funds up to \$50 to do a business plan. Bill Zank presented a list of potential projects. Julie Adams, Bill Zank, Rick Coe, and Mark Howell were present. Bill Zank presented a list of potential projects.

To make it better to conduct meetings of the River Council, Bill Zank will write letters to all Council members requesting that the Council be given a copy of the Council. Rick will also request the use of a document that will be used for River Council-related documents.

Public Comment
Mary Varty mentioned that MDEP forwarded a letter of intent to Mr. Mark Howell on July 17th regarding the location of a dock/gate that was constructed without appropriate state and federal permits. Copies of this letter will be sent to River Council members by July 20th.

Mary Varty discussed a copy of a 2011 State Agency's Council decision regarding zoning into changes to land development in environmentally sensitive areas.

Public Comment
Cred Fogie made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Motion seconded by Julie Adams. No members of the public were in attendance. Motion to close public portion made by Cred and seconded by Julie Adams. Motion carried.