



DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE
INLAND BAYS
 Research. Educate. Restore.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

*Center for the Inland Bays
 – Zoom Meeting
 May 29, 2020
 APPROVED SEP 18, 2020*

ATTENDANCE

<i>Board Members Present</i>	<i>Center for the Inland Bays Staff</i>
Richard Mais (SCAT)	Chris Bason
Susie Ball (Chair, Board-Elected)	Brittany Burslem
Pat Coluzzi (Vice Chair, Board-Elected)	Marianne Walch
Aimee Isaac (Board-Elected)	Anna Short
Ken Sigvardson (Board-Elected)	
Gerard Esposito (Board-Elected)	<i>Other Attendees</i>
David Baird (SCD, Treasurer)	Megan Mackey (EPA)
Lori Reynolds (EPA)	Tyler Monteith (DNREC)
Jenn Volk (STAC)	Hans Medlarz (Sussex County)
Pat Ragan (Board-Elected)	
Claire Simmers (CAC)	<i>Board Members Absent</i>
Todd Lawson (Sussex County)	Sec. Shawn Garvin (DNREC)
Sec. Michael Scuse (DDA)	
	<i>Board Alternates Present</i>
	Terry Deputy (DNREC)

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTION

Chair Susie Ball called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM and led the board in the pledge of allegiance. S. Ball directed the board's attention to the agenda and requested any changes or questions. Hearing none S. Ball directed the board's attention to fact that there were two executive committee meetings since the previous board meeting, one being the regular recurring meeting and the other being to talk about the Center's COVID-19 response plan.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

S. Ball requested a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, Pat Coluzzi made the motion and Richard Mais seconded. The vote was unanimous.

TREASURER'S REPORT

David Baird drew the board's attention to the updated board budget summary which was previously reviewed and approved by the finance committee. Chris Bason reported there were no new sources of income and that the Center was on track with its spending. D. Baird inquired whether there had been slow down in any revenue streams that were impacting the Center's operations. Chris Bason reported there has been a slowdown in private revenue sources relative to expectations but that there was not a current impact to the Center's operations. D. Baird requested a motion to approve the board budget summary. P. Coluzzi made the motion and R. Mais seconded. The vote was unanimous.

D. Baird directed the board's attention to the proposed FY21 budget. Chris explained that the proposed FY21 budget was finalized just as the COVID-19 pandemic was beginning and does not reflect the current economic outlook and that the budget would likely be revised in September for implementation October 1, 2020. The current proposed FY21 budget reflects private revenue that is slightly lower than the FY20 as well as level or increased funding for all 3 major operating grants. C. Bason reported a proposed 10% in personell costs due to performance increases as well as a change in employment status of the environmental educator from part time to full time. Hearing no questions S. Ball requested a motion to approve the budget. Pat Ragan made the motion and Ken Sigvardson seconded. The vote was unanimous.

C. Bason presented the FY19, FY20 and FY21 grant plans. S. Ball requested a motion to approve the FY21 grant plan. Claire Simmers made the motion and Pat Ragan seconded. The vote was unanimous.

D. Baird informed the board that the Center has applied for and received \$132,437 from the Paycheck Protection Program. S. Ball requested questions and heard none.

OTHER REPORTS

Development Committee

Jerry Esposito introduced himself as the new development committee chair. J. Esposito reported John Grandy, executive director of the Pegasus Foundation, has joined the development committee and is working to develop the planned giving program. The Spring Appeal is underway; 3,000 letters have been mailed out with follow up social media posts planned. Decked out as originally planned has been cancelled, an alternative peer-to-peer fundraiser is being planned. The James Farm Master Plan capital campaign remains a major focus with the current emphasis being on filling committee seats.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

C. Simmers reported Dennis Bartow and Mark Carter spoke at the most recent meeting. The upcoming meeting theme is open space, with Bob Collins and Mark Chura are scheduled to speak.

Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)

Jenn Volk reported a great turn out for the most recent STAC meeting. Michelle Schmidt, CIB watershed coordinator, presented on the CCMP. Following the presentation STAC broke out into smaller groups to look more intensely at CCMP actions that specifically mention STAC. The upcoming meeting will feature a presentation and facilitated discussion around the environmental monitoring plan. Following the STAC meeting a State of the Bays subcommittee met and plan to meet again in the upcoming months. The modeling subcommittee will be issuing an RFI shortly.

CCMP Implementation Committee

Chris Bason reported the CCMP Implementation Committee had a very good conversation with DNREC regarding the development of a nutrient loading model. C. Bason believes there is a basis for a partnership with DNREC in applying for a grant that would start that process. T. Deputy reported DNREC has had internal discussions on funding and has identified the EPA as a possible funder.

Additionally, a meeting of groups interested in land conservation and protection in Sussex County was held.

The staff continues to address the EPA's comments on the draft revision of the CCMP. Through this process a number of new actions have been identified. The current timeline puts the CCMP at being completed in early 2021. S. Ball inquired as to whether the COVID-19 pandemic would change the public comment strategy, C. Bason answered the plan has always been to receive comments electronically so the pandemic should have no effect.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Nomination of Aimee Isaac for the Office of Secretary

S. Ball requested nominations for the office of secretary. C. Simmers nominated Aimee Isaac, P. Coluzzi seconded the nomination. All were in favor.

Approval of the Proposed FY21 Workplan Summary

C. Bason briefly reviewed the proposed work plan which included several proposed new projects: a watershed nutrient loading model, a hydrodynamic water quality model, a subtidal oyster reef, an additional eel passage on Goslee Creek, a diamondback terrapin survey, and a new living shoreline in the Angola By The Bay community.

S. Ball requested a motion to approve the workplan summary. P. Coluzzi made the motion, and Ken Sigvardson seconded. All were in favor.

Project Reports

C. Bason gave brief updates on current projects including the acquisition and restoration of a property on Ware Cove Road, wetland creation and reforestation of a property on Burbage Road, the citizen monitoring program online database, a bay grass acreage survey, the anchorage canal drainage area storm water pond and wetland retrofit, a living shoreline and stormwater retrofit on Read Avenue in Dewey, a living shoreline at the Delaware Botanic Gardens, the James Farm Master Plan Implementation and accompanying capital campaign, and lastly the Sussex County Land Conservation Workgroup.

Update on Wetland and Waterway Buffers Initiative

C. Bason directed the board's attention to a publication the Center produced regarding the initiative to improve the Sussex County buffer ordinance as it relates to a workgroup the county formed. C. Bason informed the board of a recent call between partners. People on the call expressed concerns with how a new buffer ordinance would be enforced. C. Bason explained the

new ordinance would be easier to enforce due to updated codes and that individual homeowner's associations would be responsible for the enforcement. Todd Lawson informed the board that the initiative is on hold for the time being, the draft ordinance is written but cannot move forward until an in person public meeting is able to be held.

Update on Mountaire

S. Ball informed the board that Mountaire has applied for a spray irrigation permit and that the Center would be reviewing the application and would comment during the public comment period.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:26 AM
Respectfully submitted,
Aimee Isaac/blb –