



Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Citizen's Cafe Minutes

Unanimously approved: January 14, 2021A

DATE & TIME: *THUR October 15, 2020; 6:00-7:45*

LOCATION: Zoom*

Center for the Inland Bays

39375 Inlet Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Meeting called to order by: Claire Simmers

Attendees:

CAC: Dennis Bartow, Pete Keenan, Amanda Pappas, Claire Simmers, Richard Watson

CIB: Marianne Walch, Maddy Goss, Lisa Swanger Susan Ball,

Public: Brent Baker, , Jodi McLaughlin, Brent Baker, James LaBella, David Baker, Brian Trader, Eul Lee, Robert Mathias, Bill Hitz, Richard Borrasso, Karen Steenhoudt, Jalyn Powell

CAC not in attendance: Tom Brett, Gary Cannon, Linda Grande, Cheryl Rehrig

Citizen's Cafe Agenda for October 15, 2020 - **Restoration**

6:00-6:15 Gathering – Zoom introductions

Claire-CCMP call for public comments

6:15-6:45 CIB Storytelling - 15 min presentation/sharing; 15 min Q&A

Dr. Marianne Walch

Science & Restoration Coordinator at the Center

- Reforestation as restoration
- land use changes in Sussex County increased development decreased agriculture and forest and wetland
- after 2010 land preservation by county decreased most likely due to decreased in funds for conservation
- forest and vegetative buffer loss
- priorities for CIB
 - protect remaining natural areas
 - restore degraded
 - buffers
 - fragment connection
 - species reintroduction
 - improve water quality
- Habitat restorations
 - living shorelines and wetland restoration
 - stormwater retrofits

- fish passage projects at dams (eelways)
- oyster reefs
- agricultural parcels prioritized for watershed reforestation
- public and private land project development
- Angola Neck Preserve (Perry Track) (Angola)
 - volunteer tree planting
- Bullseye Ferry Landing Preserve (Millsboro)
 - owned by Nature Conservancy DE
- Sassafras Landing (Little Assawoman Wildlife Area)
 - deer fence-deer cause major obstacles on tree reforestation projects
- Muddy Neck (Selbyville)
- Burbage Road Wetland and Reforestation
 - Sussex County owns
 - partnered with Sussex County Conservation District for this project
 - wetland plants will be planted this spring hopefully by volunteer
 - deer tubes around trees
 - salted vine winery to partner with CIB for tree planting + wine tasting event may try again in the spring
 - Sussex County may accrue stormwater credits
- Great Cypress Swamp-Long Field
 - DE Wild Lands partnership
 - wetland restoration
- Wolfe Neck Waste Water Treatment Plant-Cape Henlopen State Park
 - irrigation system upgrade

- Monitoring and Maintenance of reforestation programs need to be developed, not much to mimic from other projects

6:45-7:15 Citizen Storytelling - presentation/sharing; 15 min Q&A

Mr. Brian Trader

Deputy Executive Director & Director of Horticulture at the Delaware Botanic Gardens

- 37 acres used to be working farm
- Living shoreline project collaboration with CIB
- community, education, and research focus
- Karen Steenhoudt
 - MSc thesis research led to botanic garden living shoreline project
- effects of sea level rise and natural vegetation loss due to phragmites
- goals of project to increase habitat and improve water quality
- Sussex County Land Trust owns land leased to botanical gardens for \$1/year for 99 years can be renewed twice
- RIVER OTTERS!!!!!!!!!!
- shoreline fill
- planted 1500 plugs of salt grasses
- observation platform
- anchored branch toe
- birds nest revetment

-inverted stumps to assist erosion prevention and provide bird nesting habitat as well as hold climbing vines

7:15-7:45 CAC Storytelling - administrative discussions

a. Approval of minutes – July 23, 2020; 6:00-7:45

Minutes passed

Motion-Dennis Bartow

Second-Pete Keenan

b. Center Updates - Lisa Swanger – Outreach and Education Coordinator

-electronic newsletter, Lisa requests Maddy to share link to newsletter sign up

-social media followship

-Get Out campaign

-fundraising goal met \$23,000

-CCMP

-revised version in draft form deadline for public comment 5pm November 15, 2020

-terrapin survey and garden project video where Lisa may or may not have dressed in a terrapin costume

c. Citizens' Input

Susan Ball- compliments on success of programs

Pete Keenan-friends of his pass on compliment to CIB thank you from Anne Short for donation

d. Draft CCMP – CAC roles

-when CCMP is approved, CAC has action items, Claire sent them out via email

-Claire asks CAC members to think about which action items you individually would like to work on

e. CAC Updates – Application for CAC membership – Ms. Jalyn Powell

Membership application of Ms. Jalyn Powell unanimously approved

* Citizen's Café July 23, 2020 – Remote Access

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Oct 15, 2020 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpc-6tr28rGtMhjgwI9UijF-8y--c0Wq9e>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Draft Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

Appendix B: Index of Actions Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC)

LIVING WITH A CHANGING CLIMATE			
Objective 1: Increase community and local government understanding of potential impacts of the changing climate and mitigation and adaptation actions.			
Action	Partners	Performance Measure	Time
CC 1-1: Develop projects, programs, and policies that encourage and support communities and governments to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.	DNREC, Center (Lead); SCAT, CAC (Supporting)	Number of projects and programs developed and offered. Number of policy initiatives introduced on mitigation and adaptation.	Ongoing
CC 1-2: Educate the public about the benefits of and promote the use of renewable energy including wind, solar, and other sources.	DNREC (Lead); Center, CAC (Supporting)	Number of publications and educational materials produced on the benefits of renewable energy annually.	Ongoing

EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND MARKETING			
Objective 2: Educate residents, visitors, and tourists in the watershed about their impacts on water quality and how they can help improve the Bays.			
Action	Partners	Performance Measure	Time
EO 2-1: Develop and implement a Public Education and Engagement Plan for the Inland Bays.	Center (Lead); CAC (Supporting)	Public Education and Engagement Plan developed. Number of actions completed annually.	Phase I
Objective 3: Communicate environmental results and raise awareness about the importance of the Inland Bays and its public involvement and influence behaviors and actions to foster stewardship.			
Action	Partners	Performance Measure	Time
EO 3-1: Create and disseminate printed and electronic materials such as social media, video, brochures, postcards, and signage to address specific education/outreach needs to target audiences.	Center (Lead); CAC (Supporting)	Number of people reached through education and outreach.	Phase I

EO 3-2: Conduct field visits with decision-makers to educate them on the importance of protecting and restoring natural ecosystems.	Center, DNREC (Lead); CAC (Supporting)	Number of decision-makers engaged annually.	G m
EO 3-4: Communicate and provide educational information to diverse audiences on the benefits of achieving water quality goals to economic development, tourism, recreation, human health, and quality of life.	Center, CAC (Lead)	Number of educational and outreach materials produced targeting the benefits of clean water. Data and facts are shared on environmental issues of concern.	O
EO 3-6: Advocate for enforcement of existing environmental regulations concerning Inland Bays restoration.	Center (Lead); CAC (Supporting)	Technical expertise provided when needed to advocate for enforcement of regulations.	O