



**CENTER FOR THE INLAND BAYS  
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Draft Meeting Minutes  
November 20, 2015

<b>CAC MEMBERS</b>	<b>MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC</b>
Susie Ball, CAC Chair.	Phil Arbaugh
Steve Britz, CAC Vice Chair.	George Bunting
John Austin	Sallie Callanen
Bob Batky	Ann Camper
Carrie Bennett	Patty Di Sabatino
Nancy Cabrera-Santos	David Green
Steve Callanen	Frances Hart
Nancy Cabrera-Santos	Donna Gray
Tom Farrah	Harold Gray
Tom Ford	Ptery Iris
Pete Keenan	Joel Kimei
Mike Marrone	Bob Kowalski
Shirley Price	Maddy Lauria, Cape Gazette
Cheryl Rehrig	Leslie Ledogar
Gary Taylor	Adrian Maxwell
Joanne Cabry, CIB BOD Chair.	Chuck Schonder
<b>CIB STAFF</b>	George Sullivan
Chris Bason, Executive Director	Amy Taylor Sevigny
Sally Boswell, Education & Outreach Coordinator	Margaret Taylor
Bob Collins, Program Manager	Mark Tingle
Roy Miller, Policy Coordinator	Dan Verona
	Pat Ward

**CALL TO ORDER**

Susie Ball, CAC Chair called the meeting to order at 5pm.  
Visitors were acknowledged and welcomed.

## **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Susie Ball proposed a motion to change the timing of the agenda to allow more time for the discussion on Aquaculture Permitting. Specifically, Chris Bason ceded his time for the Executive Director's update. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

“Freshwater Wetlands in the Inland Bays Watershed and the Delaware Wetlands Advisory Committee”

*Chris Bason – Executive Director CIB*

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

Approval of October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Minutes

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### ***Burton Island***

Tom Farrah and Chris Bason presented the draft Long Term Stewardship plan for the Burton Island Historical Ash Disposal Area just received from DNREC for our review and comment. Suggestions for our response included: invasive vegetation management, the acknowledgement of a CAC representative's participation during the drafting of the report, monitoring groundwater and sediment nearby on a less impacted site as a baseline, monitoring of living organisms in the estuary, addition of target dates for sediment monitoring and transmittal of data. Tom and Chris will incorporate these issues into a letter to DNREC.

### ***Your Creek***

No report

### ***113 Bypass***

No report

## **CAC CHAIR STATEMENT**

Susie Ball thanked the committee for its hard work and time commitment to the CAC.

### ***The way forward***

Work toward a consensus decision-making process with positive interactions between committee members. Look for new members representing diverse stakeholders. Committee members present new ideas, form committees and report back to CAC. Utilize STAC, CIB director and staff for assistance. Suggestions to the Board can be in form of a request, recommendation or resolution. Susie and Sally Boswell are working on a template for CAC submissions to Board.

## **CAC PRIORITIES 2014 – 2015**

- CAC Membership diversity –*Susie Ball*
- Speakers Bureau, education outreach to HOA's – *Ptery Iris*
- Program on Bacterial Contamination in the Bays –*Steve Britz*
- Sea level rise –*Nancy Cabrera- Santos*
- Storm water management

## **PERMITTING OF SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE**

Statement- *Chris Bason*

Chris reviewed the CIB role in the regulations process. Topics covered: CIB submitted comments to DNREC during the public hearing including minimizing the visual impact of the markings of the lease sites and creating a shellfish aquaculture advisory body to DFW. Since the regulations were adopted CIB has learned from users of the water near the SADAs in Beach Cove and portions of Little Assawoman Bay that the placement of certain lease sites may minimize existing recreational, commercial, and navigational impacts from these SADAs. The Center does not take positions on individual permit applications; however the validity of the citizens' concerns was recognized. There are forums for citizens' concerns to be heard including during the USACE hearings. Finally, there is no CCMP objective that directs the CIB to act on this issue.

### **Aquaculture resolution**

Steve Callenen withdrew his motion from last meeting and assigned the presentation of the resolution to Bob Batky.

Bob Batky presented the resolution.

There was a motion to discuss which was approved.

There was considerable discussion of the resolution.

Nancy Cabrera Santos made a motion to remove item #3 in the proposal it was seconded by Steve Britz.

Susie Ball asked CIB Board Chair Joanne Cabry if she wished to comment. Cabry stated that the CIB Board does not have the authority to address the recommendations in this resolution.

The motion to accept the current version as follows was presented by Nancy Cabrera Santos: That the CAC vote on version 5 of the proposed resolution with the removal of item # 3. These are recommendations made to DNREC. Tom Farrah seconded the motion.

The Committee took a vote.

The motion was carried by a vote of 8 Yes votes and 6 No votes.

The changes to the resolution will be sent to Susie Ball after completion.

The final draft will accompany these minutes.

Meeting Adjourned 7:30 pm

**Shellfish aquaculture Permitting in the Inland Bays**  
**CAC Aquaculture Resolution-v6**  
November 20, 2014

**Whereas,** Objective 3 of the *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* (CCMP) states: “Communicate with stakeholders through a variety of media and to promote public involvement and influence behaviors, attitudes and actions to foster stewardship”

**Whereas,** Over 200 citizens congregated at a Town Hall meeting, sponsored by state Sen. Gerald Hocker and state Rep. Ron Gray on October 6, 2014 to protest two aquaculture lease sites on Beach Cove and Little Assawoman Bay Inland Bay, based on existing uses. A substantial number of stakeholders stated a lack of sufficient advance notification regarding aquaculture implementation.

**Whereas,** Gov. Markell stated on signing the Aquaculture Bill into law on August 28, 2013: “We are establishing aquaculture in a **responsible and beneficial way that respects the other activities in our bays.**”

**Whereas,** Implementation is key to the success of the legislation, especially the details of specific site selection and how aquaculture activities will be carried out.

**Whereas,** May 21, 2014 Public Hearing Comments on Shellfish Aquaculture Regulations (Notice #2014-04) includes the Center’s position: “that the ecological and economic benefits of shellfish aquaculture are maximized in the Inland Bays, **while water use conflicts are minimized.**”

**Whereas,** The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Operating Rules state: “Provide objective watershed stakeholder concerns, advice and guidance to the Board on matters of developing public understanding, interest, and participation in the implementation of the CCMP.

**Therefore, the CAC Recommends:**

1. DNREC structures aquaculture Implementation into Phase I and Phase II, prioritizing selected sites for each phase. Monitor the initial Phase I operation, developing guidelines for the leased sites and assessing ongoing water quality improvements.
2. At the end of Phase I activity, DNREC analyzes all aspects of commercial aquaculture procedures, including other water-related activities and scenic impacts to surrounding communities.
3. As recommended by CIB: “DNREC should establish an Advisory Council to provide advice concerning the regulation of the shellfish aquaculture industry”. (May 21, 2014) Utilize advisory council to communicate directly with affected businesses, HOA’s and other citizen groups.
4. CIB implements a “public aquaculture demonstration project” on a smaller scale (James Farm or other location), reassuring the public and showing in advance, the composition and design of the aquaculture lease sites.