

River Council of the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River
Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2012

Meeting Called to Order: at 7:03 PM by Gregory Gregory, Chairperson.

Roll Call: by Fred Akers, Administrator.

Board Members in Attendance: Julie Akers (Buena Vista Twp), Rick Foster (Corbin City), Mike Massey (Alt. Egg Harbor Twp), Jim Owen (Estell Manor City), Dick Colby (GEHWA), Bill Christman (Hamilton Twp), Keith Kendrex (Hammonton City), Rick Coe (Monroe Twp), Greg Gregory (Somers Point City), Bill Handley (Upper Twp), Ralph Bernard (Weymouth)

Board Members Absent: David Brown (Egg Harbor Twp), Joel Spiegel (Folsom Boro), Clark Sprigman (Winslow Twp.)

Quorum Present – Yes

Others Present: Fred Akers (River Administrator), Paul Kenney (NPS), Lynn Maun (Coordinator) Steve Eisenhauer (alt. Upper Township), Clay Emerson (alt. GEHWA), Mike Massey (alt. EHT), Chris Jage (alt. Hammonton City), Holly Horner

Open Meetings Act: Greg Gregory 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, Atlantic County Library in Mays Landing and the GEHWA website.

Approval of Minutes: Ralph Bernard made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2011 meeting. Bill Christman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Portion: None

Nomination and Election of Officers of the River Council: Fred Akers introduced the existing slate of officers as the nominees for 2012 and inquired if there were any other nominations to be made. None were made and the following motions were made to accept the slate of officers listed below:

Chair - Greg Gregory
Vice Chair - Rick Coe
Treasurer - Dick Colby
Secretary - Fred Akers

Ralph Bernard made the motion to accept the nomination of **Greg Gregory** as Chair, **Rick Coe** as Vice Chair, **Dick Colby** as Treasurer, and **Fred Akers** as Secretary. Bill Christman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolutions: Fred Akers brought the following resolutions before the council for vote:

Resolution 1-2012: Designating Depository of Funds and Authorized Signatures on River Council Accounts.

Resolution 2-2012: Designating Official Publications.

Resolution 3-2012: Notice of Meetings of the River Council

A motion was made by Ralph Bernard, and seconded by Bill Christman, to approve Resolution 1-2012, 2-2012 and 3-2012. Motion carried.

A roll call vote was made to accept the resolutions: : Julie Akers, Yes; Rick Foster, Yes; Mike Massey, Yes; Jim Owen, Yes; Dick Colby, Yes; Bill Christman, Yes; Keith Kendrex, Yes; Rick Coe, Yes; Greg Gregory, Yes; Bill Handley, Yes; Ralph Bernard, Yes.

Motion carried.

Education & Outreach Coordinator Report (Lynn Maun):

Community Outreach

Egg Harbor Township: Alder Avenue School. John Jones is working with his students to build a garden/rain garden at the EHT Historical Society on New Jersey Avenue.

Hamilton Township – Mays Landing: Presenting monthly programs at St. Vincent DePaul.

Atlantic County Parks: Working on new programs with Karen Zindell from Atlantic County Parks.

Events and Meetings:

GEHWA Member Meeting: On January 24 the movie Growthbusters “Hooked on Growth” was shown. At the next meeting on Tuesday, March 27, Fred will present a historical program about the dams that were built on the Great Egg and its tributaries.

Cologne Avenue Tract Clean Up: On Saturday April 21st Atlantic County Parks and the Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association/River Council will partner in sponsoring a clean up at the Cologne Avenue Tract.

NPS Report (Paul Kenney): The 2012 budget numbers are currently not available. Paul is not expecting any change in the 2012 funding for the Great Egg Harbor River, though other W & S Rivers will be facing reductions. Paul had helped other rivers with management plans by using the Great Egg Harbor River Management Plan as a model.

Old Business:

1. **2012 River Council Budget:** A copy of 2012 River Council Budget was included in the RC’s packet.
2. **Other Old Business:** None

New Business:

River Councilor Reports for each Municipality

GEHWA: (Dick Colby): Dick reported that there is approximately \$10,000 in the Belinda Fund. GEHWA is looking to donate those funds to help with the cost of a new building at Unexpected Wildlife Refuge. A room in the new building will be dedicated in honor of Belinda.

Hammonton: (Keith Kendrex): There have been repairs done around the lake.

Somers Point: (Greg Gregory): There are plans to create a greenway near ball field.

Other New Business: None

Administrator's Report (Fred Akers):

1. Staff Activity Reports: A copy of the Staff Activity Reports was included in RC's packet

2. Other Items of Interest: None

Special Presentation: Environmental Steward Holly Horner presented a program about Patcong Creek. GEHWA sponsored Holly as part of the requirement for her Environmental Steward Certification. Holly plans on producing a book as a part of her project that will record the historical aspects of Patcong Creek up to present day. She will also document the recreational and working uses of the creek. Included in the book and presentation are Holly's photographs.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Rick Coe and second by Bill Christman, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.