

River Council of the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River
Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2010

Meeting Called to Order: at 7:05 PM by Gregory Gregory, Chairperson.

Roll Call: by Fred Akers, Administrator.

Board Members in Attendance: Julie Akers (Buena Vista Twp), Rick Foster (Corbin City), David Brown (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), Clark Sprigman (Winslow Twp.),

Board Members Absent: Joel Spiegel (Folsom Boro), Bill Handley (Upper Twp), Bill Egan (Weymouth)

Quorum Present – Yes

Others Present: Fred Akers (River Administrator), Paul Kenney (NPS), Lynn Maun (Coordinator) Steve Eisenhauer (alt. Upper Township), Trisha Pitcher (WMA15 Watershed Ambassador), Mike Massey (alt. EHT)

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: Keith Kendrex made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2010 meeting. Bill Christman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Portion: Tricia Pitcher, Watershed Ambassador for WMA 15, is a Stockton graduate with a degree in Environmental Studies. She has worked in her current position for 3 months, done 10 stream assessments and 25 presentations at Fern Wood Middle School. She is looking for more involvement.

Education & Outreach Coordinator Report (Lynn Maun):

Schools-

Atlantic Cape Community College GIS Day: Had a table at the event. This was the third year for this event.

Meetings:

GEHWA Member Meeting: Tuesday October 23, 2010 – Movie “Tapped” was shown at the GEHWA Member Meeting

Fall Meeting of the NJ Chapter of the Wildlife Society: Attended the Fall Meeting of the NJ Wildlife Society. The topic of the meeting was “Oil Spills in North America”.

Info:

GEHWA Summer/Fall 2010 Newsletter: Reminded River Councilors to forward any community news for inclusion in the next newsletter.

GEHWA Membership: GEHWA Membership Forms were distributed to the River Councilors.

Unexpected Wildlife Refuge Deer Patrol: Helped patrol the grounds.

NPS Report (Paul Kenney): The Federal budget should be stable for fiscal year 2011.

Old Business:

1. **Monroe Grant Request (\$500.00):** Rick Coe suggested tabling the request until a later date. A motion was made to table the issue until a later date. Motion approved.
2. **Other Old Business: None**

New Business:

1. Resolution to Support Green Acres Pilot Payments: Resolution R 05-2010: A resolution was made to support the continuation of the Open Space Pilot (Payment in lieu of Taxes) funding program. Rick Foster made a motion to support resolution R 05-2010. Jim Owen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A roll call vote was made to accept the resolution: Julie Akers, Yes; Rick Foster, Yes; David Brown, Yes; Jim Owen, Yes; Dick Colby, Abstain; Bill Christman, Yes; Keith Kendrex, No; Greg Gregory, Yes; Clark Sprigman, Yes, Rick Coe, Yes. Motion carried.

River Councilor Reports for each Municipality

David Brown (EHT): Marinas need to filter their wash water.

GEHWA: (Dick Colby): New legislation regarding fertilizer application.

Hamilton Twp.: (Bill Christman): Hamilton Township hired Mike Jacobs as the new Township Administrator.

Hammonton: (Keith Kendrex): Construction near river off of Route 54. A backhoe was used to dig a channel in the woods.

Somers Point: (Greg Gregory): Somers Point sent out a letter to the residents, along with their Water Bill regarding the Does and Don'ts that will impact stormwater runoff.

Winslow: (Clark Sprigman): Winslow Township had bacterial contamination of their water supply and notified the residents of the need to use bottled water. Residents were warned not to drink the water for three days.

Other New Business:

Administrator's Report (Fred Akers):

1. PWSRs FY2011 and FY2010 Funding: Fred recently traveled to Washington to seek legislative support for PWSRs funding for fiscal year 2012. GEHWA is facing a possible budget cut for FY 2011.

2. EHT Student Cruises: The EHT river cruises were a great success. Four river cruises were funded by the River Council.

- 3. Ryan Coe Eagle Ceremony:** Court of Honor ceremony, for Ryan Coe, was held at Anthony and Cleopatra's. The River Council received positive press from this event.
- 4. Winslow Landfill:** The Winslow Landfill is within the Pinelands. It borders the Winslow Wildlife Management area and it is also in close proximity to the Great Egg Harbor River.
- 5. ORV Legislation Update:** Continuing to work on ORV legislation to get the vehicles registered. The ongoing problem of identify an area for a park delays the registration process from taking effect.
- 6. Atlantic County Open Space Planning Presentation:** Fred made a presentation to Atlantic County regarding management plans of the County's open space.
- 7. Gravelly Run Diversion:** Fred expressed his concerns to the County regarding the possible loss of the preserved open space near the Hess School.
- 8. Fall Striper Fishing:** Fred went fishing.
- 9. Herring Alliance/Herring Lift:** The River Council joined the Herring Alliance. A total of 34 organizations now support the Alliance. As of the 2000 census, a population of 169,459 residents was counted within the municipalities along the Great Egg Harbor River.
- 10. Other Items of Interest:** None

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Dick Colby and second by Julie Akers, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.