

**River Council of the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River**  
***Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting Minutes***  
***October 21, 2015***

**Meeting Called to Order:** at 6:35 PM by Rick Coe, Acting Chairperson.

**Roll Call:** by Fred Akers, Administrator.

**Board Members in Attendance:** Julie Akers (Buena Vista Twp.), Brian Camp (Corbin City), David Brown (Egg Harbor Twp.), Ira Grindlinger (Atl. Folsom Boro), Dick Colby (GEHWA), Bill Christman (Hamilton Twp.), Chris Jage (Hammonton City), Rick Coe (Monroe Twp.), Greg Gregory (Somers Point City), Bill Handley (Upper Twp.), Clark Sprigman (Winslow Twp.), Bill Egan (Alt. Weymouth)

**Board Members Absent:** Jim Owen (Estell Manor City)

**Quorum Present** – Yes

**Others Present:** Fred Akers (River Administrator), Lynn Maun (Coordinator), Paul Kenny (NPS), Jennifer Jennings (Alt. Winslow Twp.), Chuck O'Donnell (Alt. Corbin City), Ron Meischker (Alt. Somers Point), Ralph Cooper, (Upper Twp. Green Team), Bridget Miller (Watershed Ambassador), Walt Vreeland (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:** Dick Colby made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2015 meeting. Bill Christman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Portion:**

Bridget Miller the new AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador for WMA 15 introduced herself.

Jen Jennings ANJEC Habitat Restoration and See email

**Education & Outreach Coordinator Report (Lynn Maun)**

**Community Outreach:**

**Fernwood Avenue School:** Fred and Lynn helped out with the fall Fernwood river cruises.

**Stockton:** Fred and Lynn did water quality programs at Stockton.

**Events and Meetings:** GEHWA sponsored and/or supported the following events.

**GEHWA's Fall Adventure:** GEHWA's Fall Adventure on Saturday and Sunday, September 26 & 27, 2015 was a success. Collected trash while paddling the river

**GEHWA Website:** GEHWA's new website has been launched.

**NPS Report (Paul Kenney):** The NPS's new fiscal year started October 1<sup>st</sup>. Paul reported receiving a packet for a bridge replacement project in Weymouth Twp. He also received a packet for a residential home in Mays Landing.

**Old Business:**

**Resolution Authorizing a \$2,800.00 River Council Grant for 4 Fernwood Cruises:**

**Resolution RC: 08-2015:** A resolution authorizing the River Council to grant \$2,800.00 enabling 120 students from Fernwood Middle School's 7<sup>th</sup> Grade to experience the river first hand on the Duke-O-Fluke and to learn about its values.

Rick Coe made a motion to approve up to \$2,800.00 to fund 4 river cruises for Fernwood Middle School students. Bill Christman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All Yea. Motion approved.

**Other Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**River Councilor Reports for each Municipality**

**Corbin City: (Brian Camp):** The Yank Marina will be featured on a National Geographic program called "The Yard".

**Folsom: (Alt. Ira Grindlinger):** Cushman Lake in the Collings Lake area was ordered drained by the NJDEP since the Collings Lake Association failed to repair the dam that was storm damaged. A new judge has scheduled a mediation to resolve the issue of raising the Association's fees.

**GEHWA: (Dick Colby):** Dick saw a list of all the natural gas pipeline in SJ. He is interested in the possibility of using aquaculture in Great Egg Harbor River, especially to raise River Herring.

**Hamilton Twp.: (Bill Christman):** The Consumer Square Shopping Center's has issues with its drainage basin. This problem was brought to the attention of the owners of the shopping center. There are issues with the proposed development of a residential property in an area subject to flooding that is also within 150' of wetlands.

**Hammonton: (Chris Jage):** There was a Town Hall meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> regarding the continued contamination of Hammonton Lake. A future meeting with New Jersey future will be held to help out with green infrastructure to deal with stormwater issues.

**Somers Point: (Greg Gregory):** Greg is in support of the crab pot mediation project. The kayak rack was installed at Kennedy Park.

**Other New Business:** None

**Administrator's Report (Fred Akers):**

**1. Frank LoBiondo Environmental Summit Report:** On September 21, 2015 Frank LoBiondo reaffirmed his support for PWSR appropriations and NPS accountability.

**2. Regional Director's Call to Action Grants Award Update:** Still waiting to hear regarding 2015/2016 grant request.

- 3. Henry D. Kahrs Trust (Wells Fargo) \$4,375.00 Grants Award Update:** Applied for a grant to fund student education.
- 4. Water Trail Sign Eagle Scout Project:** The grant cost \$567.80. Atlantic County Emergency Management created a plan for the sign locations. The location of signs are not the same as those locations chosen by Atlantic County Emergency Management.
- 5. SpillSpotter Project Update:** Did a biological survey on Monday, October 19, 2015.
- 6. River Herring and Special Ocean Protection Update:** Alewife and Blueback Herring are species of special concern. There are some federal rules that afford these species special protection but there is not enough funding to enforce the rules.
- 7. Interpretive Sign of Headwaters of Great Egg Harbor River:** Actual location of headwaters not a good place for the sign. A better location would be in Berlin Park. A sign similar to the one in front of the Fox Nature Center would be appropriate.
- 7. Other Items of Interest:** None

**Adjournment:**

Upon motion by Julie Akers and second by Bill Christman, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.