

**River Council of the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River**  
***Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting Minutes***  
***December 20, 2017***

**Meeting Called to Order:** at 6:38 PM by Dick Colby, 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.), Jim Owen (Estell Manor City), Joel Spiegel (Folsom Boro), Dick Colby (GEHWA), Bill Christman (Hamilton Twp.), Ron Meischker (Somers Point), Bill Handley (Upper Twp.), Ralph Bernard (Weymouth), Clark Sprigman (Winslow Twp.)

**Board Members Absent:** John Keenan (Hammonton City), Rick Coe (Monroe Twp.), Greg Gregory (Somers Point City)

**Quorum Present** – Yes

**Others Present:** Fred Akers (River Administrator), Paul Kenney (NPS), Lynn Maun (Coordinator), Jennifer Jennings (Alt. Winslow Twp.), Ira Grindlinger (Alt, Folsom Boro), Chuck O'Donnell (Alt. Corbin City), Bill Egan (Alt. Weymouth), Clay Emerson (Alt GEHWA)

**Open Meetings Act:** Dick Colby 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:** Bill Christman made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2017 meeting. Ron Meischker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Portion:** None

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

**Schools and Community Outreach:** Starting to book dates for spring of 2018. The total number of students educated during the 2017 calendar year was 2,466. During the 2017 FY 2919 students were educated. In FY 2016 2679 students and in the 2016 calendar year 3,145 students were educated, that included a total of 998 Williamstown 5<sup>th</sup> graders, doing programs in both the spring and fall because of curriculum changes at the school.

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

**GEHWA Trustee Meeting:** The GEHWA Trustee meeting was held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Harley Dawn Diner in Hammonton. Six trustees attended. Officers were elected: Julie Akers, President; Ed Curry, Vice President; Dick Colby, Treasurer; Lynn Maun, Secretary. The trustee's adopted the FY 2018 budget and work plan. They passed a resolution to enter into a \$10,000 contract with Rutgers for an Impervious Cover Assessment, Reduction Action Plan and a Green Infrastructure Feasibility Study for Winslow Township. They also discussed and are amendable to expending funds in support of the acquisition of the Bohren property.

**Stockton Environmental Principals Lab:** A total of 35 students were instructed how to assess water quality using macroinvertebrates during 2 labs for Stockton’s Environmental Principals class.

**GEHWA Member Meeting:** A GEHWA member meeting was held on Tuesday, November 28, 2017. Bill Reinert presented a program on “An Overview of the Atlantic County Parks System and Open Space”.

**Upcoming Events and Meetings:**

**GEHWA Member Meeting:**

**CoCoRaHS:** Lynn received a certificate for her participation in the CoCoRaHS program for the 2017 “Water Year”.

**NPS Report (Paul Kenney):** Paul requested a “Preliminary Healthy Watershed Assessment” on the GEHR at the HUC 12 level. The assessment identified those watersheds in NJ that were in the top 25%. It also looked at areas that are under the greatest development pressure and are where the water resources are being depleted. The HUC 12 in the Winslow/Monroe Township area was identified as being threatened.

**Old Business:**

**Other Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**1. Presentation of the FY2018 Budget and Work Plan:** Fiscal Year 2017 ended with a carryover balance of \$13,415.

**2. Resolution RC:05-2017 Authorizing the River Council to approve \$10,000 for Rutgers’ Impervious Cover and Green Infrastructure Project in Winslow Township:** Following an introduction to the project by Fred Akers, Jim Owen made a motion to approve \$10,000 to Rutgers Extension Service – Water Resources Program for an Impervious Cover and Green Infrastructure Project in Winslow Township. Ron Meischker seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All yeas. Motion approved.

**River Councilor Reports for each Municipality**

**Corbin City: (Brian Camp):** Brian is interested in removing derelict crab pots from the river.

**Estell Manor City: (Jim Owen):** The Estell Manor School is interested in getting its students out on the river. Jim wanted to know if any funds could be made available

**Folsom: (Joel Spiegel):** Ira Grindlinger reported that it is slow going getting the dam repaired. A Dollar General and Dunkin Donuts are being built in Folsom.

**GEHWA: (Dick Colby):** GEHWA trustees were not interested in installing bird blinds along the river.

**Upper Twp.: (Bill Handley):** Bill stated that there are plans to make improvements to the parking lot near the bridge and that there is also interest in extending the bike path.

**Weymouth Twp.: (Ralph Bernard):** Ralph also reported that the Weymouth Schools may be interested in getting their students out on the river.

**Winslow: (Clark Sprigman):** Thanked everyone.

**Other New Business:** None

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

**1. Block 809 Lot 6 Green Acres Update:** Fred had an appraisal done on the property. The fair market value of the property is \$38,000.

**2. River Fisheries Update:** Fred and Julie attended the meeting of the Atlantic Menhaden Board. The ASMFC failed to protect the menhaden.

**3. Resilient Coastal Sites for Conservation in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic US:** A study on the resiliency of coast areas in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic showed areas along the coast of NJ that would be more resilient to a 6' sea level rise.

**4. Assault on Patcong Creek:** The "Assault on Patcong Creek will be held on June 22-23, 2018.

**3. Other Items of Interest:** None

**Adjournment:**

Upon motion by Bill Christman and second by Bill Handley, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.