

River Council of the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River
Regular Monthly Meeting
June 15, 2005

Meeting Called to Order 7:10 PM by Gregory Gregory, Chairperson.

Roll Call by Fred Akers, Administrator

Board Members in Attendance: John Brudon (Estell Manor City), Bill Christman (Hamilton Twp), Rick Coe (Monroe Twp), Bill Eagan (Weymouth Twp), Greg Gregory (Somers Point City), Keith Kendrix (Hammonton), Bud Paynter (Winslow Twp), John Olansen (Upper Twp), Joel Spiegel (Folsom Boro)

Board Members Absent: Julie Akers (Buena Vista Twp), Dick Colby (GEHWA), Marc Thyrring (Egg Harbor Twp), (Corbin City)

Quorum Present? – Yes

Others Present: Fred Akers (River Administrator), Paul Kenney (National Park Service)

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 and the Atlantic County Library in Mays Landing.

Approval of Minutes

Bill Christman made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2005 meeting. Joel Spiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Portion

No Public present

Administrator's Report (Fred Akers):

1. Coastal Access Workshop Presentation: Fred showed his slide show presentation of the Wild & Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan for the Great Egg as a successful program to both promote natural resources protection and recreational access to NJDEP.
2. 1930 Aerial map presentation: Fred showed slides demonstrating GIS aerial comparisons of land use between the 1930's and today.
3. Gravelly Run Intern Project: Fred explained how he and Julie would be donating \$3,000 to Stockton to encourage Stockton to do more watershed characterization and assessment in the Great Egg Harbor Watershed, focusing first on the Gravelly Run sub-basin.
4. Fred presented photographs from the EHT Jamboree he and Paul Kenney attended, and recommended support for EHT's Adopt-A-Stream Program on Miry Run.
5. Fred showed a few slides illustrating the potential stormwater discharge impact the Atlantic City Expressway expansion may have on the Babcock Creek Sub-watershed.

NPS Report (Paul Kenney):

Paul commented on the low pH that is characteristic of Pinelands water quality, and reported that he will be commenting on the Atlantic City Expressway expansion across the federally designated section of Babcock Creek.

Old Business

1. Local River Management Plan Updating: Fred again offered to assist municipalities with Local Management Plan updates
2. Watershed Sign Update: Fred reported that all road agencies had been asked for approval for sign installation, and that NJDOT and Gloucester County had not yet responded.

New Business:

1. River Councilor Reports

- Somers Point: Greg Gregory reported that a barge across from "Anchorage" will be removed by J&M. Other barges were mentioned as well as the suggestion that sewer will be run across Patcong Creek.
- Hammonton: Keith Kendrix asked about the relationship between pH and water quality. Fred thanked him for the question and presented that pH is more a measure of water character, and that the natural pH in Pinelands waters is much lower than rain water. Therefore, if large quantities of rain water or high pH waters are discharged into Pinelands waters, the natural character of the Pinelands waters may be changed.
- Monroe Township: Rick Coe reported that a number of Mike Hogan's photographs of the Great Egg Harbor River are hanging on the walls in the Monroe municipal building. He also reported that there is a new book out on Monroe history and the Blue Hole.
- Egg Harbor: Bill Eagan reported that 6 housing lots are now proposed to be built on Warf Road.
- Winslow Twp.: Bud Paynter is the new RC for Winslow, and he offered his boats and assistance in handling field work on the river.
- Estell Manor: John Brudon reported that his mayor has requested a local river tour. He also suggested that No Wake signs be purchased and installed in the narrow channels and that there is a trash problem along the Tuckahoe impoundments that needs to be addressed with no littering signs or other measures.
- Upper Twp.: John Olanson reported that he had submitted information on the W&S program to his committee.
- Folsom: Joel Spiegel reported that Folsom Community Day was a success, and was used as a Phase 2 Stormwater Rules education event. He also mentioned about the Mullica railroad trash transfer issue.
- Hamilton: Bill Christman reported that the Planning Board was working on updating the Master Plan to incorporate the Local River Management Plan.

2. Fred reminded the RC that there is an additional \$10,000 of NPS Funding available to the Council

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.