

# CENTER FOR THE INLAND BAYS

## Citizens' Advisory Committee DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Center for the Inland Bays Indian River Inlet Facility  
Rehoboth Beach, DE  
January 8, 2008

### IN ATTENDANCE:

<b>CAC Members Present</b>	Peter Tiberi
Ron Wuslich, Chair	Helen Truitt
Carol Bason, Vice-Chair	Arleen Wilkes
Harry Haon	April Willey
Martha Keller	<b>Members of the General Public</b>
Barbara Lifflander	Bob Collins
Teri Munz	Dan Divilio
Graham Purchase	Mimi Dupont
Todd Smallwood	Brad Gough
Barbara Sorgeler	Jay Headman
Glen Urquhart	Leah Hoenen
<b>CAC Alternates Present</b>	Amy Jacobs, DNREC
None	George Junkin
<b>CAC Members Not In Attendance</b>	Cheryl Rehrig
Steve Callanen	Rebecca Rothweiler, DNREC
Valerie Cloutier	Jan Thompson
June Connor	Bill Wickham
Bob Cubbison	<b>Center for the Inland Bays Staff</b>
Jim Elliott	Ed Lewandowski
Muns Farestad	Chris Bason
Bob Gallagher	Sally Boswell
Jeff Gordon	Eric Buehl
Carl Mantegna	EJ Chalabala
Vicky Mertes	

### MINUTES:

#### Welcome and Introductions

Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Chairman Ron Wuslich called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. This was followed the Pledge of Allegiance. After introductions, Ron gave a quarterly update of CAC activities that included meetings regarding the land use plan update and the Livable Delaware Advisory Council.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Barbara Sorgeler motioned and Martha Keller seconded that the November 13, 2007 meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Condition of Wetlands in the Inland Bays**

Amy Jacobs, Environmental Scientist with DNREC Division of Water Resources, gave a presentation on the status of various types of wetlands in the Inland Bays. The presentation focused on the value, benefit, and functions of different wetland types. In summary, she said that a majority of non-tidal wetlands in the watershed have been degraded and the greatest impact was in “flats” wetlands and that the hydrology of riverine wetlands had been impacted as well. In closing, Amy stressed the need for increased education on the importance of wetlands and the need for wetland protection.

### **Inland Bays’ Water Quality Trends**

Chris Bason, Science and Technical Coordinator with the Center for the Inland Bays, gave a presentation on his analysis of both short and long-term trends related to nitrogen and phosphorus levels in all three Inland Bays. In summary, Chris stated that the Bays’ waters are not meeting pollutant goals, there were some reductions due to wastewater treatment plant upgrades, and there have not been major increases since 1991.

### **Seal Island Restoration Project Update**

Eric Buehl, Habitat Coordinator with the Center for the Inland Bays, gave a short presentation on the status of the Seal Island project, located just north of Fenwick Island. Eric briefly described the history of the project and the work that was planned with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He stated that if all goes well, things could begin moving forward later in the year.

### **Activation of the CAC Outreach and Education Committee**

Ron Wuslich announced that the CAC Outreach and Education Committee was formally being activated. CAC members include Muns Farestad, Barbara Sorgeler, Barbara Lifflander, June Connor, and Vicky Mertes. Ron asked those present to share possible starting points or ideas:

- *Contact homeowners’ associations.*
- *On-the-ground projects.*
- *Contact the AARP Environmental Committee.*
- *Determine what information homeowners want.*
- *Work with the local town councils.*
- *Increase the number of citizen activists.*
- *Go to events to seek out new crowds.*
- *Contact user groups (fishing, sailing, etc).*
- *Contact local clubs.*
- *Contact local fishing businesses.*

Ron thanked everyone for their input and stated that Carol Bason will start the first Committee meeting, but they will then need to select their own chairperson.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business brought before the CAC.

### **New Business**

There was no new business brought before the CAC.

**Next Meeting**

The date for next CAC meeting will be set at a later time due to calendar conflicts.

**Adjournment**

At 6:21 p.m. Martha Keller motioned and Teri Munz seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully reviewed and submitted,

Ron Wuslich, Chair  
RW/ehb