

CENTER FOR THE INLAND BAYS

Citizens' Advisory Committee DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Center for the Inland Bays
Rehoboth Beach, DE
October 14, 2008

IN ATTENDANCE:

CAC Members Present	Vicky Mertes
Ron Wuslich, Chair	Glen Urquhart
Carol Bason, Vice-Chair	Arleen Wilkes
Al Allenspach	April Willey
Steve Callanen	Members of the General Public
Valerie Cloutier	Lewis Busby
Bob Cubbison	Scot Hanna
Bob Gallagher	Michael Johnson
Harry Haon	Cindy Koch
Martha Keller	Edward Kip Koch
Barbara Lifflander	David Truitt
Carl Mantegna	Center for the Inland Bays Staff
Graham Purchase	Chris Bason
Todd Smallwood	Sally Boswell
Barbara Sorgeler	Eric Buehl
Helen Truitt	Ed Lewandowski
CAC Alternates Present	
None	
CAC Members Not In Attendance	Press in attendance
Bob Collins	
June Connor	
Muns Farestad	
Jeff Gordon	

MINUTES:

Welcome and Introductions

Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Chairman Ron Wuslich called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. He welcomed those in attendance and ask that everyone present introduce themselves. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a quorum when the meeting was called to order.

Committee Reports

Outreach Committee

Committee Chair, Valerie Cloutier presented the report of their meeting

Project ideas included:

1. Produce a detailed 3-D map of the Inland Bays watershed for use at events
2. Placemat for use in IB restaurants
3. Children coloring book
4. Speakers Bureau-create power points
5. Raingardens
6. Events
 - a. Rehoboth Beach Farmers Market Green Tent-Sept 23- Pat Drizd, Val Cloutier
 - b. Coast Day-Oct 5-CAC, Volunteers and staff
 - c. Next event: Epworth UM Church Green Sunday, Rehoboth-Nov 2 9am-1pm

Other ideas from the floor:

Slides at movie theaters

Rehoboth Beach Film Festival-slides for next year

Have items to sell, especially to children

Public Policy Committee

Update on Sussex County Comprehensive Plan

Carol Bason gave an update on the SCCP

- Livable Delaware Meeting Friday, October 17 at 10 a.m. in the Tathull Building (sp?)
 - CAC review the SCCP Update ?
- Land Use Policies
 - New ordinance for Open Space definition-to view it go to the Sussex County Website
 - Planning and Zoning Public Hearing to be held Nov 13, 2008 at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers at Georgetown
 - Recommend policy committee review and make recommendations at these two public meetings.
 - Sign Ordinance
 - Forest Buffer Ordinance

Coal Ash Landfill Issue

Phase II Landfill Permit

Timeline and Status:

- On September 10, the CAC Public Policy Committee produced a resolution regarding the Phase II Landfill Permit and presented it to a special called meeting of CAC on September 15
- The CAC approved the resolution with some changes to be presented to the CIB Board at their meeting on September 19
- The Board considered the resolution at their September 19 meeting. The CIB Board amended the resolution to reflect the following changes:
 - Denied CAC's recommendation to use the Appeal Process to hold up the permit

- Stated that "...it [the issuance of a permit for a new coal ash landfill) appears to be inconsistent with the state-adopted CCMP"
- Directed the CIB to work with DNREC ...???
- Bill Zak [of Citizens for Clean Power] has applied for an Appeal
- A new feasibility study underway on the Burton Island Landfill will be completed in two years Chris Bason is looking into EPA recycling program for coal ash---coal combustion product partnership. May hold a joint CAC/STAC meeting re: recycling coal ash
- The Appeal to the permit will be heard in January

Carol Bason, Vice Chair of CAC, received a letter from DNREC stating that we would have input before the public process when the new feasibility study on Burton Island is completed. Harry Haon stated that the email representing a first step in defining our partnership with DNREC on this issue, but that it needs to be further defined and formalized. A number of CAC members expressed concern about continued environmental degradation over next two years and thought that CAC should stay engaged in the project prior to the completion of the feasibility study. The Public Policy Committee will continue to work on this issue. Ed Lewandowski will work with the Policy Committee Meetings to plan a strategy for formalizing our partnership with DNREC on this issue. Some CAC members ask that we ask for clarification from DNREC on what is permissible in the present landfills under existing permits ????

There was a motion that the Public Policy Committee establish the goals of an on-going relationship with DNREC on the fly ash issue in coordination with the executive director of the CIB. Seconded by Carol Bason. Passed by the CAC. Next week, at Ed's convenience, Ron and Allen will meet to discuss the next step. Ron will email a report to the full CAC following their meeting.

It was announced that Allen Allenspach has agreed to chair the Public Policy Committee. He said that he is away from January through April and would like to have the committee consider appointing a co-chair that could act in his absence. That will be taken up at the next Policy Committee meeting.

A number of CAC members spoke to public health concerns related to air pollution from the Indian River Generating Station. Ed Lewandowski reminded CAC that as an NEP, our mission relates to water quality, and cannot address air quality except related to air deposition of toxins or nutrients into the water.

Inland Bays Pollution Control Strategy

Ed Lewandowski reported that the Governor will announce the signing of the Inland Bays Pollution Control Strategy at an event DNREC will hold at the CIB tomorrow (Wednesday, October 15) at 2 p.m. CAC is invited. There was some discussion about loopholes in the plan, but Valerie Cloutier stated that this is a measure of success; a victory that can be built upon. Ed said that it would very likely be challenged in court.

STAC Report

Chris Bason reported that there were three presentations at the July STAC Meeting; all are available for viewing on the CIB Website under Research-Publications.

He announced that there will be a conference on January 28 at the Atlantic Sands Hotel in Rehoboth Beach: "Frontiers on Nutrient Management" He said that it has been ten years since the Nutrient Management Act was passed, and that this will be an opportunity to review what has been done in the last decade and discuss what needs to be done going forward. Outcomes of the meeting will be communicated to decision-makers. CAC is invited to attend. Maximum attendance: 200

He also reported on:

- The Inland Bays Environmental Indicator project. The committee is working on developing a "bacterial indicator" for swimmable waters.
- \$100,000 in grants was awarded this year for education, restoration and research projects in the watershed. Projects include sea grass restoration, wetland restoration in the Great Cypress Swamp, development of an indicator for benthic diatoms.

The next STAC meeting will be on December 5. Scott Andres of the DE Geological Survey will present on Rapid Infiltration for waste water disposal. Chris hopes to have someone from the EPA discuss their Fly Ash Re-Use program

2008 CAC Issues and Concerns

***Bullets in Bold will be given priority this year**

- Perform outreach/education re: farmland and nutrient management best practices to further reduce Agricultural pollution in the Bays
- **Identify stakeholder concerns (HOA's and community organizations around the waterways) through information gathering and LISTENING to issues to learn about their concerns and get them on board. *Work with Sally Boswell to compile a list of HOA's to contact from the list DNREC produced of HOA's in this watershed; create a power point presentation; develop issue-based modules for presentation***
- **Promote "Tree" triage through grants to HOA's, public, and local business. *Martha Keller will lead CAC efforts on this project***
- **Hold annual (Nov-Dec) meeting between CAC and state/local public officials; enhance CAC communication with Agencies. *CIB staff has planned a Legislative Breakfast in February 2009 to update them on CIB issues of concern and activities. Val Cloutier and Allen Allenspach will work with staff on this***
- **Follow-through with Sussex Co. Comp Plan to ensure implementation and enforcement of Inland Bays protective ordinances. Review ordinance drafts & make recommendations. *Carol Bason will coordinate---contact Carol is you'd like to work with her***

- **Perform outreach/educate re: impervious surface and stormwater management “best management practices” such as those implemented in Fenwick Island. *Todd Smallwood will coordinate working with Ron Wuslich and Chris Bason***
- **Create Sussex Council Watershed liaison from CAC *Ron Wuslich***
- **Have fun event one or more times per year *Sally Boswell encouraged all CAC members to attend the Volunteers for the Bays night next Thursday, October 23 from 4:30-6:30 for their first fun event of the year.***
- **Increase CAC membership & diversity (business, geography, age...) Representation needed from Lewes, Dewey and from the business community**
- Encourage/educate on the use of green technology
- **Designate all members of the CAC as part of Stakeholders Concern Committee**
- **Develop stronger CAC involvement in schools *Valerie Cloutier and the Outreach Committee work with Sally Boswell***
- Promulgate PCS
- **Address fly ash at NRG Energy & Indian River Power Plant *Plans for this outlined earlier in these Minutes***

Recommendations from the Floor

- **From Chris Bason: NPDES permit regarding the Cooling Water Permit for the Indian River Generating Plant *The resolution on this past the House but was not put to vote. DNREC issues the permit.***
- Air monitoring/Power Plant- Atmospheric deposition into the Inland Bays

Report from the Outreach Committee

Chair Valerie Cloutier reported on the work being done by the committee

1. The committee is working to identify community events in areas in the watershed where citizens less informed about Inland Bays issues might be reached and will work to plan for a CIB presence.
2. Planning to work with Sally Boswell to develop a power point that can be taken to HOA meetings throughout the watershed to inform and educate citizens about what their community can do to help improve water quality in the bays.
3. The committee is considering ways to play a role in the “education” of our elected officials about public policy affecting water quality in the bays. She commented that this fall there will be a sea change in government in Delaware with many newly elected officials taking office at the state and county level and that we need to meet with these newly elected representatives and inform them about issues affecting the Inland Bays.
4. Upcoming dates for community events were announced:
 - a. Coast Day, Sunday, October 5

b. Green Festival at Epworth United Methodist Church, November
CAC members will receive an email inviting them to assist at these events.

The next Outreach Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 26 at 4 p.m. at the CIB. All CAC members are invited. The committee is still seeking additional members.

Minutes of the June 2008 Meeting

The motion to accept the Minutes of the August 12, 2008 meeting was made by Barbara Sorgeler and seconded by Graham Purchase.

Next Meeting

The date for next CAC meeting is set for Tuesday, December 9 from 4-6 p.m.

Adjournment

At 6:15 p.m. it was motioned and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed. The chair thanked CAC members for bringing guests and encouraged interested attendees to consider becoming a member of CAC.

Respectfully reviewed and submitted,

Ron Wuslich, Chair
RW/sb