

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY
LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
FOR DECEMBER 8, 2017, TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

- **Mayor's Report**—Submitted by Mayor Voveris:

I can report since our last meeting the Council and I have given careful consideration and deliberation on the CPSM recommended changes to our Town policies and procedures to set a course of operation that is sound and financially sustainable for a town of our size and budget. Details of their recommendations will be posted on our website after a meeting takes place with our staff after the December 8 Council Meeting. This meeting will be led by two Council members and myself and Town Hall will be closed for the duration of the meeting.

The local Mayors held a very productive meeting for A.C.T. (Association of Coastal Towns) in Lewes in November. Our latest pursuit for dredging is garnering attention from our legislators. Please review the following meeting minutes for information. Thank you.

**MEETING OF A.C.T. (ASSOCIATION OF COASTAL TOWNS)
NOVEMBER 17, 2017 AT 10:00 AM AT THE LEWES TOWN HALL**

In attendance at the meeting table were Lewes Mayor Ted Becker, Henlopen Acres Mayor Dave Lyons, Fenwick Island Mayor Gene Langan, Dewey Beach Mayor TJ Redefer, Bethany Beach Mayor Jack Gordon, Rehoboth Mayor Paul Kuhns, South Bethany Mayor Pat Voveris, DNREC Administrator of Shoreline & Waterway Management Section Tony Pratt and Sussex County Administrator Todd Lawson.

Audience attendance included Leah Gallagher from previous DEDO – Department of State Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, Michael Powell from DNREC, Sussex County Council President Michael Vincent, Sussex County Council Member IG Burton, Fenwick Island Town Council Member Bernie Merritt, Planner on Lewes City Staff Tom West, Rob Morgan from Lewes Planning Commission, Town Managers Kristy Rogers from Milton, Ann Marie Townshend from Lewes, Terry Tieman from Fenwick Island, Tom Roth from Henlopen Acres, Maureen Hartman from South Bethany, Kate Rohrer and Andrew Dinsmore from Senator Coons' office, Karen McGrath and John Kane from Senator Carper's office.

Mayor Becker welcomed everyone and thanked all for coming knowing some made extensive travel to be in attendance.

Minutes from the October meeting were approved by all after a motion from Mayor Redefer, a second from Mayor Lyons, a discussion, and then an amended motion by Mayor Redefer to include some additional recipients be added to our email communication list.

Tony Pratt announced his pending retirement of April of 2018 after 38 years of service and that Mike Powell would take the lead until his replacement was named. Tony expressed confidence in Mike's experience and ability.

Tony reiterated the contract was awarded for beach replenishment slated for Bethany Beach, South Bethany and Fenwick Island. The work will begin in March of 2018. The contractor understands working during season is problematic and may bring in more dredges to quicken the completion of work. Tony said he did not know which town would be the start of the process and dune grass will be planted between November of 2018 and April of 2019.

He then spoke to the attention of Sea Level Rise (SLR) caused by coastal storms and wave action being the weakest in the Bay areas low levels nagging problem compared to the ocean which has gotten all the attention with renourishments. Now the frequency of flooding in low levels is drawing attention. Roosevelt Island is being considered for dredging by the ARMY CORPS in January or February but nothing certain has been decided. John Kane offered his help with the contract to push along the work. Mayor Lyons expressed the need for dredging since their marina was last dredged in 2013. He produced an article recently featured in the Cape Gazette that was submitted by Senator Hocker (attached). He said we need to compile revenue amounts for boating, gas tax, etc. to illustrate the importance of our waterways and what they ultimately generate. He had a recent conversation with Cerron Cade the Head of Tourism and Small Business who expressed interest with A.C.T. and the dredging initiative. He reports to the Secretary of State Jeff Bullock.

Mayor Becker said the Yacht Club is dredging and 6 marinas will partner with the city to dredge. The Yacht Club spoil site will be the University of Delaware's and others will use the marsh side or beach side of the canal. Dredging must be done on a 3 year cycle for viable dockage. Lewes is fortunate to have spoil sites on the marsh side. Lewes will be decommissioning some streets resulting in 13 building lots owned by the city removed from possible building. This decision is a step to help address Sea Level Rise (SLR).

Tony Pratt reminded everyone that the term "spoils" has been replaced by "Confined Disposal Facility" or "CDF" and this triggers a look for long term range at using materials for benefit. We need holistic thinking since we are running out of CDFs at the Inland Bays. Reasonable sediment management is topic that A.C.T. should engage.

Mayor Becker pointed out that the dewatering process leaves just 25% of what was dredged. Tony Pratt said CDF deserves a management plan and it depends on the material being dredged. Mayor Becker noted the reuse of material in the dredging in front of Cape Shores. Tony Pratt said we need to substantiate the surpluses and deficits and the management of the material as well as the quality of the material.

Mayor Langan said his community has 500 houses on a canal system that have difficulty getting out to the Little Assawoman Bay so Fenwick Island has formed a Dredging Committee. Recreational boaters are getting stuck. DNREC surveyed the Bay in 2016 under Charles Williams.

Mayor Redefer said Dewey has views of the Bay but not many homes near the Bay. The Center for Inland Bays (CIB) has a project on Read Street which floods often. It used to be 2 to 3 times per year but now floods every time it rains. Dredging is important to all of us, including outside of our incorporated areas, so we need state help.

Tony Pratt asked why not state and federal help. Most Inland Bays channels are federally authorized and maintained by the ARMY CORPS. They use a metric of commercial tonnage which really does not work for Delaware. DNREC has been doing channel marking and surveying. To properly maintain dredging 3 to 5 million dollars is needed. The state adjusting the boat fee generates 1.2 million. To do Massey will be a 3 million dollar fix. Do we wait or go into debt? Herein lies the dynamic of the problem. The economic stimulus for boating needs state and federal attention.

John Kane spoke to the CORPS budget and budget to cost ratio. Earmarks went away in 2009. Economic studies will be helpful to adjust ratios. All across America we have flood control, dredging, beach renourishment but the CORPS has a very narrow scope. We need to think broadly and show why the current process is broken to help Senators Carper and Coons. We need to get back to Water Resource Development acts every 2 years. Mayor Becker said DEDO representative Leah Gallagher being at our meeting is very helpful. John Kane said he is available to help with the CORPS problem. In 2007 there was the WRD Act

and the GAO did a reverse of the CORPS and needing budget constraints. The budget to cost ratio is very limited to looking at benefit which is hard to quantify. Senator Ernst from Iowa would be against the initiatives hard fought by our Senators Carper and Coons. We need to separate from the basic recreational argument and focus broadly on business, employment, and the state economy.

Tony Pratt said there have been 2 economic studies on the beach and 1 on the Bay. Service industry is broad based. Now people inland may travel 15 to 20 miles coming to work.

John Kane said beach replenishment is a very narrow focus. The legislation works against us. Delaware must maintain solid beach environments or turn into Detroit.

Karen McGrath said the University of Delaware did a Sea Grant study and we should pull this to update it. It is not just the worry of effect on tourism but the cost of the ocean coming into our sewers, etc. Inundation.

John Kane said it is also a tax issue when you compare a renourished beach vs. one slated for renourishment. Why would people go to a shrinking beach. This impacts business and employment. The benefits to maintenance need to be appropriately calculated.

Mayor Becker thanked the legislative offices attendees for their insight and input. He asked if there was any word on the gas tax that Chris Bason from the CIB had talked to us about. Tony Pratt said Secretary Cohen and Secretary Garvin had a meeting about this but had not heard the result of the meeting. He pointed out boaters have the ability under law to submit receipts to have the Federal Highway Tax refunded for fuels purchased for boating, however it is thought very few follow through on this.

John Kane pointed out the Everglades changed the way they did their system to a broader picture and not project by project. They work with the CORPS. Tony Pratt said environmental benefits are important. Sea Level Rise is happening at the rate of 1 foot per century. Fenwick Island just lost an island in the last 10 years. Reclaiming is expensive. Massey artificial island will cost 3 million.

Todd Lawson spoke to the County Comprehensive Plan. On November 2 Planning and Zoning finished their draft. The County Council will begin their work in December. Economic Development, Conservation, and Land Use are all included. He urged our towns to get involved and give input. Every other week in January there will an opportunity to hear about the Plan.

The next A.C.T. meeting will be in Lewes at the Town Hall on January 19, 2018 at 10:00 am.

Our meeting ended at 11:05 am.

Association of Coastal Towns
November 17, 2017

PLEASE SIGN IN

* - would like
e-mail of
ACT correspondence

	Name	Organization
*	Michael Powell	DNREC
*	Tom West	Lewes
	Ann Marie Townshend	Lewes
	Maureen Hartman	South Bethany
	Kristy Rogers	Milton
	Bernie Merritt	Fenwick Town Council
	Teresa Tieman	Fenwick Island
	Bob Morgan	Lewes
	MIKE VINCEM	SUSSEX COUNTY
	Irwin G. Buxton	Sussex County
	Andrew D. Moore	Sen. Coons
*	Kate Rehner	Sen. Coons
*	Karen McGrath	Sen. Carper
*	John Kane	" "
*	Leah.Gallagher@state.de.us	"Old DEJO" - Dept. of State - Division of Small Business, Dev. & Tech.
	Thomas Roth	Henlopen Acres

the groundwater to determine whether the groundwater has been contaminated. I know that many of my neighbors are concerned about the impact of the project on not only their wells, but their property values. If every elected representative who signed off on the letter to the Cape Gazette is so confident that the existence of this project is harmless, each should affirmatively state his opinion that no homeowner selling a residence in the area has an obligation to disclose the project in the required Seller's Disclosure and issue an affirmative statement that he will agree to indemnify any homeowners who may be subject to claims for a failure to disclose.

Andrea G. Green
co-founder
Keep Our Wells Clean

Please rethink DNREC permit for Allen Harim

This is a tragedy. An environmental tragedy. What is DNREC thinking? Chicken waste contains salmonella bacteria, and it also contains campylobacter, both of which can make a person sick or dead. When these bacteria affect the food or water supply of humans, it can infect the digestive systems of people. In other words, eating products grown

I know of no malodorous waste. Let's not overlook the native plant and native animal impact studies! How about real estate value studies? The EPA shut down this project a few weeks ago because Allen Harim/Artesian were constructing without a permit. DNREC was not effective in its policing of its own expired permits. How can we be assured that DNREC will police this proposed project any better in the present or future? This is a very creative way for Allen Harim to pass/push their compliance burden onto Artesian. I would suggest that a performance bond or environmental insurance be required as part of this fast-tracked approval. Can anyone say: superfund sites?

L. Colon
Milton

Urge Sussex to vote no on Right to Work

Sussex County, Delaware is known as a place where hard working people have lived, toiled, and eventually prospered since the first immigrants from Europe set foot on this soil in 1637. I find it saddening that now we are seeing an effort to make that dream more difficult for our working families in 2017 and into the future. Why would the men who we hired to represent us on our

proposed ordinance.

Sam Deetz
Seaford

It's critical we move away from fossil fuels

I've been biding my time for quite a spell as the debate rages in this newspaper concerning climate change. Well, Mr. Bowman's letter finally has prompted me to respond. First off, when folks ask me, Do I believe in climate change? I usually respond back by asking them specifically what are they referring to. I generally get many different answers, most being muddled and confusing. I studied climate and weather modelling back in the late '70s at Drexel University as an engineering student, and although the technology and knowledge in these areas have expanded significantly since then, the basic parameters of what these models are, how do they work, and how accurately they predict short- and long-term trends haven't changed much, based on the research I have done since then. So in a nutshell here is what I believe concerning this topic: 1) Do I believe the Earth's climate is changing? Yes, without a doubt. This can be proven in many ways, and this process has been happening pretty much continuously since

would make no sense, if it were actually 90 percent or greater, then such measures are urgently needed. The true scientific debate is really about this question.

5) How accurate are climate change models? To answer that question folks need to understand what climate models are and how they work. The quick answer is climate models are complicated computer programs with multiple algorithms and many input parameters. As you can quickly tell from hurricane tracking models, some models work better than others under certain conditions. The farther out in time you go, the larger the margin of error is. It could very well be that the consensus climate models are correct about the short- and long-term trends of climate change. But it is a topic that should and must be researched and debated.

6) Did climate change cause the recent hurricanes and fires? Meteorologists unfortunately only have about 150 years of weather data to work with, and much of that is sketchy at best. The general consensus seems to be that from private weather companies, whose very survival requires accurate short- and long-term weather forecasting, current global climate conditions interact and/or cause extreme weather events only indirectly at best. The scarcity of or plethora of hurricanes and other weather events from year-to-year do not either directly prove or disprove general climate trends. The best way for me to answer this question is to say that climate change is so more directly responsible for the recent weather trends we have seen, than it was for the relatively docile hurricane seasons of the past 10 years. Folks who react in a knee-jerk way to individual weather occurrences to prove their own orthodoxy are to be ignored, in my opinion, and that applies to both sides. As far as Mr. Bowman's comment about the luxury of debating this issue, history is full of unfortunate examples where politics and science are mixed together, usually with the result being the shutdown of scientific inquiry and discovery.

city to maintain beach recreation and scientific debate over this issue be shown for what they really are.

Brian Gillespie
Lewes

Sen. Hocker seeks support for dredging

The following letter was sent to senators Tom Carper, Chris Coons and Rep. Blunt Rochester with a copy submitted to the Cape Gazette for publication. I am writing in support of the letter you recently received from the Mayor of South Bethany, Pat Voveris, on behalf of several members of the Association of Coastal Towns. In the correspondence, Mayor Voveris discussed the imperative need for the dredging of our state's recreational waterways. Personally, I have heard from numerous individuals - many of whom are boaters - who have experienced difficulty and even the inability to navigate our waterways due to severe sediment build up. Some have commented that they may need to relocate their households in order to utilize their marine equipment. While the recreational needs impact thousands of registered boaters in our state, we must also consider the effect on our economy, businesses, and environment. Without the ability to navigate our waterways, boating sales and suppliers, marinas and locally sourced seafood restaurants will not survive. Beyond economics, though, is the very cleanliness of our water. The maintenance of our waterways through dredging is necessary in order to make our bays clean. I am currently scheduling a meeting with Gov. John Carney and DNREC Secretary Shawn Garvin to discuss this concern in further detail. Your assistance in bringing attention and funding to this dire matter is respectfully requested, as this situation is only worsening. I look forward to working with you as we address the needs of Delaware's waterways.

Sen. Gerald Hocker
20th Senatorial District

Barefootin'

Continued from page 7

average, and that's a blessing. Here's what October gave us in Sussex County according to statistics gathered in Georgetown by Accuweather. Normal average temperature for October is 54.2 degrees. It was warmer for us this year with an average October temperature of 59.6. A high of 79 degrees in the last week of the month boosted that monthly average. Normal high for the last week of the month is 66 and normal low is 43.

How about precipitation?

October could hardly have been more normal, and at this point in the year, our total precipitation is also right on the money. In October 2017 we had 3.31 inches of rain compared to a normal October measurement of 3.26 inches.

So far in all of 2017, Accuweather has measured 39.51 inches of rain. The normal total is 39.31.

This week's expected rain will push us toward Sussex County's annual total average rainfall of about 43 inches.

That makes our area a great place for growing plants, and it's why the Delmarva Peninsula has long been a region of great

natural abundance. If groundhogs could talk, they would nod in the affirmative.

On a final note, I want to wish my good friend Hazel Downs Brittingham a happy 90th birthday, on Nov. 12.

No one knows and loves the history of Delaware's Cape Region, Cape Henlopen and Lewes any more than Hazel. Her eyesight might be failing, but her mind and memory are sharper than ever. Her willingness to guide researchers so enthusiastically keeps her inner light shining brighter than the local lighthouses so symbolic of her work through her first nine decades.

• Town Manager's Report—Submitted by Maureen Hartman:

- Attended a City Managers Association of Delaware (CMAD) meeting on November 2. Three speakers provided presentations at the meeting. Karen Brittingham from DeIDOT provided an update on a change in the MSA program; Eric Norenberg and Sharon Lynn provided a presentation on the ICMA Local Government Management Fellow Program, and Julie Mirowenger spoke on the Keep Delaware Beautiful Program.

A change in the MSA program that could affect our Town is the change to the Municipal Infrastructure Agreements with DeIDOT. DeIDOT is seeking to 'standardize' all agreements and if they do, this could change how MSA funds are distributed, especially since pedestrian and equestrian trails are now going to be calculated in as part of the reimbursement. DeIDOT representatives are planning to meet with each municipal representative to go over assets and all agreements. To date, South Bethany has not been contacted.

The ICMA Fellowship Program reaches out to students from across the country and provides them with the opportunity to intern for a municipality over the summer. ICMA filters the internship applicants and proceeds with recommendations to the municipality. ICMA is asking municipalities to consider entering this program.

Keep Delaware Beautiful is run in conjunction, and affiliated with, Keep America Beautiful. This program is new to Delaware and they focus on three main goals: 1) Beautification; 2) Recycling; and 3) Litter. Grants and media coverage are available to any municipality interested in participating in this program. I have provided this information to Councilwoman Callaway because of their beautification goal.

- I attended a SCAT meeting on November 3 with Councilman Shaw. In the legislative update, we were advised that Realtors are upset about the increase in transfer taxes and they may bring it up at the next legislative session. It was also mentioned that several Towns are concerned about the cell towers being installed on top of poles in DeIDOT's and municipal rights-of-way. Some Towns are preparing ordinances banning them from the municipal rights-of-way.
- Councilman Boteler, Renee, and I met with the auditors on November 9th to discuss the final recommendations from the audit.
- Met with Councilwoman Callaway, Kent Stephan, Don Chrobot, and Charlie Walker from Liberty Playgrounds on November 9th.
- Conducted a staff meeting on November 15th.
- I attended a BBVFC meeting on November 16 at Sea Colony. The 2018 budget and new ambulance purchase were the main topics of discussion. In January, Mayor Voveris will be the chair of the EMS Sponsor Oversight Committee and South Bethany will be hosting the meetings. Next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2018.
- On November 16, met with Beach Net, Councilmembers Callaway and Stevenson and Pam Smith to discuss a revision to our website.
- I attended the ACT meeting in Lewes on November 17 with Mayor Voveris.
- On November 27, I attended the Delaware Resilient and Sustainable Communities Summit in Dover. This well-planned and well-attended event provided attendees a plethora of information about coastal storms, climatology and changing conditions in Delaware; improving resiliency at the community level; success stories with other communities and best management practices. A keynote speaker from Connecticut Sea Grant provided insights on human behavior in the wake of Superstorm Sandy and the 2017 hurricanes. Secretary Garvin, numerous Town managers, elected officials, businesses and non-profit organizations attended the event.
- I attended the Identity Theft presentation provided by Cpl. Mark Burton on November 28. Twenty-six residents, including council members, attended this informational presentation regarding scams and identity theft and how to avoid it.
- I attended the Women Leading Government meeting on November 29 in Dover. House Majority Leader Valerie Longhurst was the guest speaker and spoke about women in government. Excellent presentation.
- Renee and I attended a Budget and Finance meeting on November 29.
- Code Constable Joe Hinks and I are still trying to prepare for the CRS 5-year cycle verification which is scheduled for December 13.

JANUARY REMINDER

Town Council Regular and Workshop
Town Hall Offices Closed

No meeting in January
January 15, 2018

- **Police Department Report**—Submitted by Chief Troy Crowson:

Identity Theft Seminar

The South Bethany Police Department hosted an identity theft seminar on November 28th, 2017 at 2:00 pm. The seminar was well attended and the department may host another one during the spring or summer months for those who were not able to attend.

Felony Arrest

On November 15th, 2017 South Bethany officers were contacted by an out-of-state resident, viewing real-time video footage of two suspicious subjects standing outside of her residence in South Bethany. The homeowner made contact with these subjects via her home video system, causing them to flee. Officers quickly responded and observed a vehicle matching the description of the suspects turning onto Coastal Highway. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, resulting in the arrest of two of four of the vehicle's occupants. A juvenile suspect attempted to flee from officers while in custody. A female suspect was arrested for active warrants. A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of a Walther P22 .22 caliber handgun, over 30 grams of marijuana, and several items of drug paraphernalia. The gun that was recovered was later determined to be a stolen firearm out of Dover. The female suspect was video phoned by a judge and then released for her warrants. The juvenile male was charged with felony carrying a concealed deadly weapon and receiving a stolen firearm. He was also charged with misdemeanor counts of criminal impersonation, resisting arrest, possession of marijuana with aggravating factor, criminal mischief and disorderly conduct. The juvenile was processed and then released to the custody of his mother.

ALERRT

All officers of the South Bethany Police Department have finished a state-mandated active shooter training known as "Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training" or "ALERRT". The State of Delaware has mandated this training for ALL Delaware law enforcement by December 31st, 2017. Cpl. Wiley of the South Bethany Police Department is one of seven "ALERRT" trainers for Sussex County. Cpl. Wiley acted as an instructor for three ALERRT classes at the Milford Middle School between November and December, instructing not only South Bethany Officers, but officers from many other departments within the county as well.

OHS Conference

Chief Crowson and Sgt. Davis attended the annual conference hosted by the Office of Highway Safety. The South Bethany Police Department has received between \$15,000 and \$20,000 yearly from the Office of Highway Safety, from initiatives such as DUI checkpoints, holiday impaired driving mobilizations, pedestrian safety mobilizations, and most recently speed enforcement mobilizations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Budget and Finance Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Boteler:

The Budget and Finance Committee met on Wednesday, November 29, 2017. All property owner members of the committee – Steve Farrow, Chris Keefe, Joe Mormando and Don Boteler - were in attendance along with Town Manager, Maureen Hartman and Finance Director, Renee McDorman.

The committee began with a review of draft minutes of its October 26, 2017 meeting and unanimously approved the minutes, subject to a minor technical revision.

The committee then received a presentation from representatives of Fulton Bank regarding a two-part cash sweep program. The first part of the program would provide for a daily sweep

of excess operating account cash held at Fulton Bank into an instrument that currently pays either 35 or 55 basis points (.35 or .55 percent) for the entire amount depending on whether the amount is under or over a \$1 million threshold. The amount and associated return is calculated daily. This part of the program promises to improve the town's return on idle cash held at Fulton Bank, while maintaining a similar level of safety of principal.

The second part of the program provides for deployment of the cash currently held in CDs at banks other than Fulton Bank into money market deposit accounts at various banks for current rates of 90 basis points over \$1 million and 30 basis points under \$1 million, applied to the entire balance depending on its level in relation to the \$1 million threshold and calculated daily. This part of the program would return slightly less (approximately 45 basis points at current rates) than the current internally managed portfolio of multiple third party bank CDs, but would relieve the town of the burden of searching for appropriate bank CDs and managing the purchase and maturity schedules of the portfolio. The advantage to the town would be to shift risk and work to Fulton Bank's professional management.

The committee engaged in a robust Q and A with the bank officials, and upon their departure engaged in a thorough evaluation of both parts of the program. The committee then directed Town Manager Hartman and Finance Director McDorman to begin utilizing the first part of the program relating to the town's cash held at Fulton Bank. As to the second part of the program, committee member Keefe undertook to investigate other potentially superior options in the cash management marketplace for possible redeployment of the town's cash held in multiple third party bank CDs and to report back to the committee at its next meeting.

The committee then conducted a cursory review of proposed revised versions of the town's travel policy and purchasing policy. Given the length and detailed nature of the proposed revisions, committee members determined to conduct thorough individual reviews of the proposed revisions prior to the committee's next meeting and place the policies on the next meeting's agenda for discussion and disposition.

The committee next reviewed the budget process for FY19. The committee determined to augment the budget presentation with an exposition of beginning and anticipated ending reserve account balances, along with anticipated reserve account inflows and outflows and agreed to a goal of presenting separate operating and capital budgets. The committee also considered whether to recommend an overall limit (e.g., 3%) on the growth of the operating budget, but deferred a conclusion on that and other budget process questions until the committee's next meeting.

Finally, Town Manager Hartman notified the committee that she is considering a budget proposal to upgrade and augment the position of Captain of the town's beach patrol and that she would provide more details as part of an overall budget request.

The committee agreed to a next meeting date of December 28, 2017 at 2:00 pm in Town Hall.

- **Charter and Code Committee** – Submitted by John Fields, Chair:

The Charter and Code Committee has not held a meeting since the last Council meeting in November, therefore the Committee has nothing to report at this time.

- **Communications and Public Relations Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Stevenson:

The Committee met on December 1, 2017 at 1 PM. The meeting was called to order by Carol Stevenson, Chairman. All members were in attendance. The agenda for the meeting was approved, and the draft minutes for the meeting prior on October 25th were read and approved. There were no public comments and no public attended the meeting.

Discussion of assistance for June Photography Exhibit was held. The committee agreed that we would provide assistance to the Friday Opening Reception held by the Community Enhancement Committee. We will provide Table Décor and assist by helping with food and drink set up and assisting at the welcome table and as needed during the event. The CEC will provide catered food for the event.

Plans were finalized for the next Pot Luck Social which will be held on Saturday February 10, 2018 at Town Hall. The theme will be Valentine's Day!

Realtor Outreach was discussed and plans made for providing an informational letter to send out to homeowners with the usual town mailings in early 2018. The goal is to give the homeowners who rent properties some helpful rules and suggestions to make the experience for both renters and owners a positive experience. The Committee has also decided to plan a Realtor Breakfast for March 22, 2018 from 9 to 11 am. We will invite our top realtors to a light breakfast with our new town manager and Chief Crowson. Discussion of rental issues with realtors at that time will be followed up with South Bethany Rental Packets, Flash Drives with the most recent rules and regulations, and a gift card for each rental office.

Initiatives for the next fiscal year were discussed. The Committee is committed to several new ideas. The Committee has committed to a Web Site Update or Redesign for the next calendar year. It has been a number of years since an update was performed, and it was felt by the committee that an attractive and easy to use Web site is a great asset to our town. The Boat Parade will now be held under the auspices of SBPOA. Other activities planned will be continued Pot Luck Suppers, Realtor Outreach Programs, a Band Concert with Food Vendors, a Parade Float Entry in the Bethany Beach Independence Day Parade, two summer movies including one targeted for young families and another held on a weekend night for the general public with a picnic.

- **Community Enhancement Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Callaway:

CEC Meeting – Thursday, December 7, 2017

The CEC will hold its FY19 DRAFT Budget Planning meeting on December 7, 2017. The following CEC members plan to attend: Sue Callaway, Chair; Donna Farrow; Diann Nazarian; Kent Stephan; Bobbe Stephan; Carol Stevenson; Pat Weisgerber; Don Chrobot, Public Works Supervisor; and Rick Gentile, Public Works. The meeting will be followed by the annual CEC Holiday Party with staff invited to attend.

Meeting Agenda

- Update from Public Works
 - Review of 2018 Photography Exhibit Tasks and Timeline
 - Review of CEC Mission Statement
 - Development of DRAFT FY19 Funds
- **Planning Commission** – Submitted by Councilmember Shaw:

I attended the most recent Planning Commission meeting at Town Hall on November 17th. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dick Oliver at 10:00 a.m. The minutes from the prior meeting were presented, comments solicited and approved as written.

The Planning Commission members voted unanimously to approve Linda Lewis to be the Vice Chairman of the Committee and for Scott Fischer to be the Secretary. Both were sworn-in officially.

The planned dates for the Planning Commission to meet in the coming year were set as Jan 19, Mar 23, May 18, July 20, Sept 21 and Nov 16. But, if a property owner or builder needs a hearing, then an additional meeting will be called as required.

A memo documenting a meeting between Dick and Maureen Hartman (Town Manager) regarding lighting and discussions with Jim Smith of Delmarva Power was reviewed and discussed. There has been a suggestion that Delmarva is looking at LED light fixtures and fixtures that may be more acceptable in our town.

Dick pointed out that the LED lights on Ocean Drive have been more expensive to maintain than had been expected. I pointed out that in general they were an acceptable approach other than in Mid-Winter when lack of daylight may keep some from charging sufficiently.

The Commission members agreed that lighting is a long-term issue and that the PC is not responsible for current, existing lighting and related issues (e.g. working with Don Chrobot on shields), only for developing a strategy and plan for the future and one that meets the obligations established by the Town's Comp Plan.

It was suggested to possibly try out several different fixtures on Canal Drive to see public/owner response. I advised the Commission members that the Town Council needs to know ASAP if the intent is to take steps that require funding. The Commission members seem agreed that the most sensible and cost-effective approach is to work with Delmarva Power, to use their poles and to look at new lighting options Delmarva has discussed. This should avoid the need for major funding alternatives.

The Commission members will be reviewing the recently issued Sussex County Plan and will provide comments to the Town Council as regards our plan versus the County plan.

The final activity of the Commission was to have John Janowski provide a discussion on the option of adding advisory shoulders to the two sides of the traffic corridor through Cat Hill in order to improve bike and pedestrian safety. Mr. Janowski felt that DelDOT may be willing to do a test of the concept with South Bethany and possibly find a grant ("Healthy Community") for the estimated \$5600 cost (plus signage) for the effort.

Public comments were invited but none were offered and so the meeting was adjourned.