

## **COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

**LOCATION: TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

**MARCH 21, 2017 – 1:00 PM – 3:20 PM**

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The meeting was attended by Sue Callaway, CEC Chair, Donna Farrow, Diann Nazarian, Garnet Timbario, Pat Weisgerber, and Don Chrobot, Public Works Supervisor. Frank Weisgerber, Water Quality Committee Chair, was also in attendance to speak about the Oyster Water Quality Project.

#### **Public Comments and CEC Member Comments**

There was no additional public in attendance. During the CEC member comment period the following remarks were made:

- Pat Weisgerber noted that Laura McCauley has agreed to adopt the canal end on Peterson previously adopted by the Eckenrodes who have moved from South Bethany;
- Garnet Timbario announced that Kent's daffodils at the Anchorage Canal End have blossomed. Sue added that she took pictures and sent them to Kent;
- Garnet asked about the abundance of trash in the Anchorage forebay and other Route 1 canal ends. Sue agreed and noted that she had sent an email and pictures to Don Chrobot and Frank Weisgerber, Chair of the Water Quality as to the appearance and further steps. Public Works has agreed to do checks and cleanups of the canal ends – but especially the most visible ones along Route 1.
- Garnet inquired about the ownership of the broken fences between Sussex and Tern. Don stated that they do not belong to the town. Sue advised Garnet to send an email to Joe Hinks, Code Enforcer, noting the location and condition of the fences as broken fences are a violation of property maintenance codes.
- Diann Nazarian inquired about the 3-way stop at Canal Drive and Tamarack and how long it will be in place.
- Sue Callaway read an email statement from Lori Cicero requesting that the SB libraries be dedicated to Tony Caputo and John Speer. After discussion, the committee voted unanimously against the proposal as it was not a "match." While Tony and John were indeed amazing SB citizens they were not involved in the Little Library initiatives.

ADDENDUM: Sue Callaway sent an email to Lori informing her of the CEC decision and recommended if she chose, to contact the Historical Society regarding a dedication.

- The group agreed to send out the Pet Waste and Beautification flyers via an Email News Update in the coming spring months.

### **Approval of 12-7-16 Meeting Minutes**

After review of the minutes, a motion was made by Pat Weisgerber and seconded by Donna Farrow to approve the December 7, 2016 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Update from Public Works**

Don Chrobot stated that all the new plants have been ordered and the old plants have been removed. The seasonal employee John has returned from last year and is now on board until September. They have been working on the Sandpiper dune that acquired too much sand over the winter. He pointed out that this is a challenge due to amount and location of private properties. When asked by Sue Callaway about the grasses on the Route 1 Median, Don said that he anticipates DelDOT returning to hydro-seed the multiple areas left barren by the installation of FIOS cables. He will follow-up with DelDOT to confirm their planting plans. Don also mentioned some of the variables surrounding the volleyball agenda item to be discussed at the 3-23-17 Town Council Workshop.

### **Update on Historic Sign Project**

Sue Callaway presented the final PDF versions of the sign designs to the group for one last review. After approval of the signs, Sue stated she will give InstaSignsPlus the go ahead to produce them in their final form for display. The group then re-reviewed the location of the signs and the order in which they shall be placed starting with #1 beginning at the east end closest to the Richard Hall Memorial Park sign. The order will be as follows: #1 TIMELINE; #2 EARLY ROOTS; #3 LIFE Through the Years; #4 EVOLVING GOVERNEMENT; and #5 SB IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY. After installation the signs will be covered until the presentation ceremony on the 21<sup>st</sup>. During discussion of dates for the ceremonial installation with the Historical Society, the group agreed to schedule it in conjunction with Earth Day and hold the ceremony on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM. Pat Weisgerber agreed to send an email to the Historical Society informing them of the date, time, and location. Sue Callaway will work on an Email News Update that will invite the town to join the celebration of the sign installation.

**ADDENDUM:** Pat Weisgerber sent an email to the Historical Society on March 25<sup>th</sup> and their members are planning to attend. The signs have been made and Sue Callaway picked them up at the New Castle store and is very happy to report they are perfect! Public Works will affix the signs to the stands and will install them prior to the 21<sup>st</sup> Date. The Email News Update has been forwarded to Town Hall for review and request to send out on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 7, 14 and 19.

### **Update on Adopt-A-Canal End Program**

Sue led the group in a review of the remaining available canal and road ends that are listed A, B, C priority. The new adoption of Brandywine road end leaves one road end on New Castle that has junipers and is a Priority A. The group reviewed all the Priority B and C (mostly road ends off Canal Drive) and determined that most were okay (were neat, had stones and a bench) and if the town landscaped one it would need a property owner to maintain. Sue agreed to contact the homeowners adjacent to the New Castle road end to see if they would be interested in adopting this final Priority A canal end. After this discussion, the group decided to focus the 2017 Earth Day on the Historic Sign project and forego a separate canal end adoption. Adopt Contest details will be placed on the agenda for the May meeting.

### **Update on Canal Drive Street Lighting**

The lights along Canal Drive have all been installed and are now hooked up. It could not be confirmed if the lights had been activated. The light at W. 1<sup>st</sup> is on as reported by Donna Farrow.

### **Discussion of FY 18 CEC Budget Requests**

Sue noted that there has been some opposition to the two new items listed on the CEC FY 18 Budget: 1) the proposed Evergreen Respite WiFi area and the replacement street lights along Route 1. Sue has responded to questions and concerns from TC members regarding the WiFi area. Mayor Pat Voveris has indicated concern that the area is wetlands and will require additional permitting and survey. She also feels it will require an additional handicapped parking space be added adjacent to the park. After meeting with Delmarva Power, Don stated that the lights will not require extra digging, so the \$3000 expense has been removed from the budget. There has been concern expressed by Mayor Voveris that the replacement lights will not provide enough lighting. Delmarva Power has stated that the replacements will provide the same light as the cobra lights.

ADDENDUM: Pat Voveris informed the Town Council on 3-28-17 that it has been determined that the proposed area for the Evergreen Respite and Wifi is NOT a wetlands. The possible permitting issue is no longer a factor. The lights were again discussed at the Town Council 3-23-17 workshop. Some, but less resistance to the proposal remains.

### **Review of 2017 Photography Exhibit Submissions and Discussion of Exhibit Logistics**

Sue Callaway presented all the photo submissions to the group. 25 submissions were approved for the Photography Exhibit. The group discussed all the details and logistics for the Exhibit and Sue agreed to draft a congratulations letter to the photographers. Using the four new wire

racks, it was determined that each photographer will have one panel measuring 3' x 5'. The group agreed that each photograph would have name, location, and title and must be submitted in "hangable" format. The time for the opening was confirmed for Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. All personal information from photographers must be received by May 8<sup>th</sup> and all photographs must be delivered to Town Hall by Friday May 19<sup>th</sup>.

ADDENDUM: Sue prepared a draft congratulations letter which was reviewed by all CEC members and two participating photographers. The final letter was sent via email to all 25 photographers on March 27<sup>th</sup>. In addition the Email News Update announcing the Photography Exhibit and the Opening Night to the South Bethany community has been prepared and forwarded to the Town for distribution.

### **Review of Draft Informational Updates for Community Regarding the Oyster Cage Installation & Water Quality Initiative**

Frank Weisgerber presented an overview about the current oyster water quality improvement project. Since their installation, several property owners have inquired about them asking what they are and commenting on their appearance. We reviewed some of the materials and signs being prepared that will inform SB property owners about the initiative and other ways that citizens can get involved. The group made suggestions about which suggested sign language to use and what information is important to communicate.

### **Discussion of Next Meeting Dates & Adjournment**

The April meeting will be focused on attending the Earth Day Historic Sign dedication on Friday, April 21 at 10:00 AM. The next CEC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.