

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Citizens' Advisory Committee
NC DENR Washington Regional Office
January 20, 2006

MINUTES

Those attending were:

Janet Rose	Sarah Phillips	Jimmy Johnson	Tom Stroud
Charlie Bass	Diane Hardison	Mary Alsentzer	Noah Hill
Kay Winn	Bill Crowell	Kelly Williams	Allen Clark
Joan Giordano	JoAnn Clarke	Dean Carpenter	Rhett White
Tony Hammond	Stacey Bradshaw	Marty Wiggins	

Those excused were:

Ed Mitchell	Marjorie Rayburn
Amy Ring	Mike Johnson

Joan Giordano, APNEP Outreach Coordinator called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. She welcomed those present and asked for self-introductions around the table.

Following the introductions of members, Joan Giordano introduced the APNEP staff: Bill Crowell, Director; Kelly Williams, Restoration Specialist; Dean Carpenter, Science Coordinator; Allen Clark, Citizens' Monitoring Network Coordinator; Jimmy Johnson, NC Field Representative; and Noah Hill, VA Field Representative.

Bill Crowell presented an overview of the APNEP program that was followed by questions and answers. Discussion ensued with regard to APNEP's matching funds and program boundaries.

Joan Giordano then described and briefly discussed the contents of the Citizens' Advisory Committee notebook that was distributed to each attendee: Governor Easley's Executive Order #74; CAC membership listing; draft CAC by-laws; APNEP '06-'07 workplan; APNEP 2005 report card and supporting 2005 critical steps analysis.

When mentioning the CAC membership listing, Joan drew attention to the vacancies that exist on the CAC for: Forestry, K-12 Education, NC Association of County Commissioners, and (2) At-large positions. She urged the members present to think about any acquaintances they felt would be a good fit with the vacant slots.

Dean Carpenter gave a presentation on the APNEP Science & Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), the way it fits into the APNEP structure, its responsibilities, and the importance of communication of scientific information to APNEP committee members and the public.

Joan Giordano then continued discussing subsequent portions of Executive Order #74. She outlined the role and responsibility of CAC membership and the draft by-laws. Discussion ensued with regard to the by-laws, resulting in a change to Article VI, Section 1, which states "Resolutions may be proposed by the Chair at least 30 days before the meeting at which they will be acted upon." The change consisted of inserting the number "15 days" in place of "30 days."

In accordance with the by-laws, the offices of Chair and Vice-Chair, as well as an Executive Committee (Chair, Vice Chair and 3 CAC members) were discussed. Kay Winn accepted the office of Chair, and Tom Stroud, the Vice-Chairmanship. Marty Wiggins, Mary Alsentzer, and Stacey Bradshaw agreed to round out the CAC Executive Committee. There was no further discussion of the by-laws, and they were adopted by motion of Rhett White and a second by Tom Stroud. Motion carried.

Discussion then turned to APNEP's current grant funding cycle for demonstration projects. Bill Crowell distributed a draft press release describing the impending release of the Request for Proposals (RFP) that focuses on environmental schoolyard demonstration projects. He charged the CAC with evaluation of the anticipated submittals, as well as determining appropriate funding levels for those submittals chosen. Release of the RFP will be made through several methods: press release, newsletters, APNEP website, Office of Environmental Education listserv, by email to CAC members, etc.

Release of the RFP is imminent, and expected by the end of January. Proposals are due back to APNEP by March 1st, and the final selection process will occur at the next CAC meeting scheduled for April 7, 2006 at a time and place to be arranged. Joan added that the quick turnaround was due to the need of having to comply with the EPA's fiscal year (EPA is the APNEP's sole funding source) that runs from October 1 - September 30. Brief discussion centered on alternative funding sources for APNEP with the Smithfield Foods Agreement and the NC General Assembly being mentioned.

Discussions about whether or not to require a "match" from proposal submitters, partial vs. full funding of proposals, and criteria for ranking the anticipated submissions (such as giving priority attention to those proposals having a citizen involvement component) were mentioned. Bill clarified that the RFP would have a requirement that all submissions must address the main sections of the APNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), must address an on-site environmental issue, and must have an educational component. The Committee decided that there would be no "match" requirement for proposals, but that "matching and leveraging" of funds sought, would be encouraged.

At the suggestion of the Chair, it was decided that APNEP staff would do a reconnoiter of proposal sites in order to answer questions the CAC might have about submitted proposals upon their evaluation of them.

There being no further business or public comment to address, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.