



**Bald Head Woods Coastal Reserve
Local Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 24, 2011 2 – 4 pm**

Attendance

<u>LAC Members</u>	<u>Affiliation/Interest</u>	<u>Present</u>
Dr. Suzanne Dorsey	BHI Conservancy	Yes
Mr. Chris McCall	BHI – Village	Yes
Dr. Anthony Snider	UNCW EVS	No
Mr. Brad Stone	BHI Safety	No
Mr. Sky Conklin	Community Member	No
Mr. Gene Douglas	Community Member	No
Dr. Robert Timmons	Community Member	Yes
<u>Others Present</u>	<u>Affiliation/Interest</u>	
Jason Dail	NCCR/NCNERR Stewardship and Education Specialist	

Reserve Update – Jason Dail

- Members were informed that the LAC guidelines document has been finalized and the Reserve will be working on submitting it to NCDENR in the upcoming weeks. The Reserve hopes to have an implemented guidelines document prior to the fall 2011 LAC meeting(s). An update was provided regarding the rules review process the Reserve has been undertaking. Additionally, a document detailing topics under consideration as part of the rules review effort was distributed to each member at the beginning of the meeting and members were asked to review the document and contact the site manager with comments or questions. Also discussed during the meeting were the signage and visitor use projects.

Site Update – Jason Dail

- An overview of the past years activities and current site specific issues were provided and discussed, including: Visitor use, invasive species, proposed projects within the Zeke's/Smith Island basin and new sign installation.

- Walking trails are in good condition requiring minimal trimming/pruning. Benches and boardwalks need to be cleaned as they are covered in mildew.
- Will schedule trip in the upcoming weeks to discuss site specific topics/issues with Conservancy staff and board members.

Other Comments and Concerns – Roundtable Discussion

- The Conservancy recently obtained a research permit to perform work on the Red Bay population on the island, specifically related to Laurel Wilt Disease cause by the ambrosia beetle. The Conservancy wants to inquire about having the Bald Head Woods Reserve designated as a Red Bay Reserve. They also would like to begin educating the public about the dangers associated with the ambrosia beetle.
- The Conservancy is busy with tourist traffic at the Reserve now, but will probably slow down in the summer b/c they do not run tours through the woods in the summer.
- The Conservancy mentioned that the maritime forest was the primary conservation topic with majority of the residents and tourists.
- The Conservancy mentioned they would like to move the boardwalks from the conservancy around to the north end trail in the fall 2011. This topic needs to be discussed in detail in the near future. Reserve staff will follow up with the Conservancy in the upcoming weeks.
- Once Reserve signs are approved, we need to get approval from the Village for installation. Follow up with Chris McCall.
- Dr. Timmons mentioned there was a golf cart incident at the west parking deck adjacent to the trail, and the parking deck is in need of repair. Mr. Timmons plans to recruit a few residents to help repair the structure.
- The Conservancy plans to perform trail maintenance in the upcoming weeks. Reserve staff will participate in cleanup efforts and will coordinate with the Conservancy on date and time.
- Dr. Timmons mentioned there is mildew on the benches and boardwalks and they are in need of cleaning. He said some residents may be willing to clean them up. Difficulty will be getting sprayer/chemical on the actual trails where treatment is needed.
- There is an area along the creek trail that has become hazardous due to the steep incline of the bank. The Conservancy asked if they could possibly install a boardwalk or hand rail along this section. Reserve staff needs to inspect the area and determine whether or not any hazards exist, and if the situation warrants the installation of a hand rail or boardwalk.

Meeting Follow Up – Jason Dail

- Tentatively scheduled next meeting on November 8, 2011 at 1:00 pm.
- Follow up on trail condition and meet with the Conservancy to discuss outreach and educational opportunities.