

**DRAFT**

## **ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM**

Citizens' Advisory Committee  
Northampton County Cooperative Extension Service  
Jackson, NC  
July 25, 2007

### Minutes

#### Those Attending:

Tony Hammond	Joan Giordano
Diane Hardison	Mike Johnson
Liz Barnhardt	Marty Wiggins
Marjorie Rayburn	Stacey Bradshaw
Samantha Barlow	Kelly Riley
Charles Bass	Dean Carpenter
Bill Crowell	Noah Hill
Lucy Henry	Kay Winn
Sarah Phillips	Chad Smith

APNEP Chairman, Kay Winn, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am and welcomed all to Northampton County. She asked for self-introductions of those present.

Joan Giordano, APNEP Outreach Coordinator, introduced Liz Barnhardt the new CAC member representing forestry. She then outlined existing vacancies on the CAC and asked for nominations to fill them. The vacancies needing representation are: a non-governmental environmental conservation organization (1); NC and VA State-recognized Native American tribes (2); county government, NC or VA, (1); the VA League of Municipalities, (1); the NC Association of County Commissioners, (1); NC or VA municipal or town government, (1) and, K-12 education (1).

Mrs. Giordano explained that some vacancies were due to resignation and others were owing to original unfilled positions. Ms. Winn asked that any names being placed in nomination for the above positions be emailed to Ms.

Giordano at: [joan.giordano@ncmail.net](mailto:joan.giordano@ncmail.net) It was also mentioned that the nominator ask the nominee if he/she is willing to serve and that a short biography of the nominee be included, if possible.

Ms. Giordano reported that Chuck Peoples' name had been placed in nomination for the non-governmental environmental conservation group opening. Mr. Peoples works for The Nature Conservancy. She added that Kelly Riley's name was placed in nomination for the K-12 educator position, and distributed her professional biography. Ms. Riley teaches fourth grade at the Oakwood School in Greenville. **The deadline for emailing nominations for the vacant positions to Joan is August 25, 2007.** Upon receipt of all nominees' names, the roster will be emailed to CAC members for voting.

Ms. Winn asked Ms. Giordano to review CAC member term limits, which were randomly generated when the CAC was originally populated. She explained that according to CAC bylaws, members whose terms are expiring are eligible to "re-up" for a 3-year term and, if after completing that term and they desire to do so, may "re-up" for another 3 years, for a total of 7 years. Those whose term limit expired in January 2007 were asked to email Ms. Giordano if they were interested in serving another term. By "re-upping" they will commit to a 3-year term. **The deadline for expressing interest in continued service is August 25, 2007.** The purpose for having staggered terms is to avoid all members cycling off the CAC at the same time.

Bill Crowell, APNEP Director, gave an update of APNEP activities noting that the Policy Board met in May, voted upon and passed the FY'07-'08 Workplan, and that the new fiscal year begins on October 1, 2007. He mentioned that the APNEP, as well as all other NEPs, will undergo an approximate \$80K decrease in funding from the EPA for the coming year. Mr. Crowell also reported that there will be a new Governor's Executive Order replacing Executive Order #74 which established the newly structured APNEP in May 2005. He asked that suggestions for any changes be emailed to him at: [bill.crowell@ncmail.net](mailto:bill.crowell@ncmail.net).

Lastly, Mr. Crowell mentioned that he recommended to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) that the APNEP CAC be used as a focus group for review of the NC Strategic Conservation Plan which is under development and will coordinate and implement the state's

conservation efforts for the next 25 years. The plan will identify the essential high quality natural resources across the state, as well as the crucial land gaps identified in a network of supporting ecosystems. Maintaining a healthy environment is critical to DENR's mission, so all should be engaged in supporting the implementation of this statewide Strategic Conservation Plan.

Dean Carpenter, APNEP Science Coordinator, reported on the activities of the Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), by describing what the STAC is and its purpose. He mentioned that the next meeting will be at the Virginia Institute for Marine Sciences (VIMS) on August 17, 2007 and outlined the agenda mentioning the development of policy papers pertaining to issues the APNEP should be addressing. He hoped the CAC would review them when they are drafted.

Dr. Carpenter then mentioned the anticipated update of the APNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management plan (CCMP) noting that the document is approximately 13 years old and needs to reflect current environmental issues and challenges. He added that there will be an APNEP CCMP update subcommittee formed to guide the update process and it will be comprised of 2 members from each APNEP advisory committee (Science & Technical, Citizens', Management, and Policy Board).

Chad Smith, APNEP Citizens' Monitoring Network coordinator, updated the group on the activities of the APNEP Citizens' Monitoring Network (CMN). He reported that there are 22 active sites where water quality is being monitored by approximately 54 volunteers. He urged CAC members to view the CMN website which can be accessed through the APNEP website: [www.apnep.org](http://www.apnep.org). Asked if he would be agreeable to doing a water quality monitoring demonstration at the Northampton County Nature Trail pond, and perhaps include the location as a site, he answered affirmatively. Kay Winn will send Northampton County 4-H contact information to Chad. It was also asked if CMN efforts could extend into Virginia, which can occur, as long as the site is included in the APNEP region.

Noah Hill, APNEP Field Representative for Virginia, reported on several initiatives occurring in the Virginia portion of the APNEP region including a Virginia citizen monitoring grant opportunity; a Virginia housing and

community development septic program; a water quality improvement fund for Southampton County and Virginia Beach; Virginia Beach TMDL and improvement plan in the Pasquotank watershed; the Governor's program for preservation of 400,000 acres by 2010; the volunteer agricultural district ordinance which can be viewed by doing a Google search for land preservation notebook; and that the Virginia Albemarle-Chowan roundtable will meet in September.

Joan Giordano outlined a 12-page Newspaper In Education (NIE) supplement pertaining to estuaries that will appear in the News and Observer on November 13<sup>th</sup> with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -page follow-up on November 20<sup>th</sup>, APNEP's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of federal designation as "an estuary of national significance." Discussion ensued with suggestions that perhaps such a supplement could also be inserted into the Washington Daily News and the Virginian Pilot. Ms. Giordano mentioned that there will be many overruns of the tabloid and that they could be distributed to those areas and schools in the APNEP region that do not subscribe to the NIE program.

The meeting continued with a walking tour of the Northampton County Nature Trail under whose picnic shelter luncheon was served, compliments of Kay Winn. Following discussion there, the meeting reconvened in the Cooperative Extension building where ice-cream and cobbler was served for dessert, compliments of Rose Massey, Northampton County Extension Director.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Email nominations with bios for CAC vacancies to Joan Giordano by 8/25/07
- Email intention for renewing CAC service if your term expired in January 2007 to Joan Giordano by 8/25/07
- Express interest in being considered for service on the CCMP update subcommittee to Joan Giordano and/or Dean Carpenter
- Bill Crowell and Kay Winn will consider an in-person visit to NC and VA State recognized Native American tribe Chiefs.