

BOG Meeting March 13, 2023

In attendance in person: President Beau Breeden, Governors Neil Macindoe, Jerome Zadera, Matt Layman, Ed Hayes, Marissa Mianti, Jennifer Connor, Joe Angel, Cheri Fairchild, Mary Lamb and Michele Shipley, Budget committee members Charlie Moore and Charlie Shoul, Town Manager Frank Tewey, and guests Stacey Wildberger, Becky Benner and William Arnold.

President Breeden called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm and gave a short overview of the agenda, noting that the meeting will move to closed session will begin about 8:15 when the attorney arrives to educate new Governors and speak about updates to laws.

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Minutes of the February 13, 2023 BOG meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Governor Fairchild, seconded by Governor Angel and approved unanimously. President Breeden noted that changes to Robert's Rules of Order may allow for a change to the approval process in future meetings.

The financial statements for January 31, 2023 were reviewed. A motion to accept the financials was made by Governor Angel and seconded by Governor Macindoe. President Breeden gave a brief overview of the report and noted that at more than 50% of the way through the fiscal year, piers appears underfunded but the slip payments are coming in now. Also, tree removal costs are high and could require an amendment to allow that line to be overspent. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Town Manager: Town Manager Tewey said that he is in his second month at CSCIA and that his former position with the police department was similar to this position and he is learning specifics of the Cape. He has worked to mediate complaints by residents. He reported on several committees and those comments are in the committee reports below. In addition, he noted that the Mosquito Program application was received by the Department of Agriculture. He will consult with Richard's Tree Care to assess the health of trees on CSCIA properties in order to budget for future tree removal needs. One invoice for tree removal was recently paid and two more tree removals are pending approval.

Broadneck Council of Communities (BCC): President Breeden distributed draft comments on the Chesapeake National Recreational Area on the Broadneck Peninsula to the Board via email to solicit comments and edits and will submit to Senator Van Hollen and Congressman Sarbanes by the midnight March 13 deadline. He announced that Congressman Sarbanes will attend the April 27 BCC meeting at the clubhouse to discuss the project.

Beaches & Parks: Town Manager Tewey reported that the advertisement for beach attendants has been posted and applications are coming in from returning attendants and new applicants. T-shirts for attendants are on order and Mr. Tewey is looking into online programs for validating their time in/out. One portable toilet will be installed at each of the beaches on March 16, with additional ones to be installed in May. Governor Macindoe thanked the 25 or so volunteers who helped clean up rock/block debris near the inlet on March 11. There may be another beach cleanup day before summer.

Business Lot Owners Association (BLOA): President Breeden said that with the outdoor dining bill extension, the Board will ask Broadneck Grill to either spruce up their tent area or remove it if they are not going to use it.

Building: Town Manager Tewey said there is an appeal to a denied variance request to be heard May 16th at the county. He has reviewed 4 applications, none of which require variances, that need to be approved by the committee. Governor Layman will work with Governor Shipley on getting access to the system.

Budget: Governor Zadera said the second Special Community Benefit District (SCBD) check in the amount of \$173,099.35 was received from the county. He announced the next budget meeting to be held April 27 at the home of Charlie Moore at 7:30 pm. All board members may attend. He asked if the new credit card had been received and was told that it had not.

Caper: Governor Lamb expressed her disappointment with the small font in the current Caper, noting that she has received several complaints. There is a new representative at Minuteman Press with whom she is working, and though this issue cannot be fixed, she hopes to have issues worked out by the next issue. She will issue an apology to the community. The online version is fine.

Clubhouse: Town Manager Tewey is working with Richard's Tree Care to have fill dirt placed in the overflow parking area to raise the low area currently filled with wood chips to reduce puddling and mud.

Events: Governor Lamb said the Easter Egg Hunt will be held April 1 and the Virtual Egg Hunt will begin March 18.

Grants: See Old Business.

Legislative: Town Manager Tewey reported there are 3 county bills to watch: zoning of accessory dwelling units, floodplain management and special event expenses. They are to be presented at the March 20 County Council meeting. A state bill regarding construction of private piers is still in committee and probably dead. Governor Mianti noted Senate bill 0417 and House bill 062, saying they look similar and will change the standard by which a person is eligible for a waiver for requirements to use non-structural shoreline stabilization

methods. President Breeden commended Governor Mianti on her organization and quick involvement in the legislative concerns of the Cape. He said CSCIA will need to speak with our representatives to get more information on the status. House bill 496 regarding riparian rights was written mostly to benefit the Whitehurst community and that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) provided input on how creating a rule that would apply only to Anne Arundel County instead of the whole state would be detrimental, most notably that it would cause a loss of joint grant application with the Federal government, adding years to grant processes. President Breeden reported the Region 4 Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be focusing on the Cape St Claire/Broadneck area in their next meeting. He will send the board members questions in order to get comments to take to that meeting. He noted that accessory dwellings being allowed will impact roads, schools, traffic, etc.

Piers: Town Manager Tewey noted that new slip number signs were installed and an assessment of safety ladders and throw rings was conducted. Replacements will be ordered as needed. President Breeden said most slip contracts have been returned to the office. Some renters have chosen not to renew. The deadline to return without late fees is March 17, and those not returned by April 1 will be considered declined. Boats must be in slips by June 1.

Security: Town Manager Tewey reported that the officers on light duty and FMLA leave will be returning at the end of the month and one officer is not responding to communications. He has spoken with some other law enforcement officers, not Anne Arundel County officers, who have expressed interest in the positions.

Strawberry Festival: Governor Lamb stated that planning is going well and that there is a need for more non-profit groups such as scouts to provide games at the park.

Technology: Bill Szczytko is working with Town Manager Tewey and President Breeden to update the website.

OLD BUSINESS

President Breeden said the contract to continue working with Alliance of the Chesapeake to apply for grants was reviewed and approved by the attorney. There was a change in wording from "sites 3-7" to "sites 1-7" so that sites 1 and 2 are not excluded. The cost to update the contract for a year is \$14,000, which could potentially be included in awarded grants, but will be due regardless and will be taken from the beach improvement funds still on hand with a current balance of over \$208,000. A motion was made by Governor Fairchild to approve the amendment to the addendum and to allocate the \$14,000 from the grants committee line item to pay Alliance of the Chesapeake to help write grant applications. It was seconded by Governor Lamb and approved unanimously.

President Breeden noted that the bill before the County Council regarding special events could affect the Strawberry Festival and Fourth of July parades. The bill would allow the county to charge for the expense of police for road closures. Governor Lamb said that she has had to agree to pay costs associated with the road closures in the past but that if there were any fees, they have been waived. With a shortage of officers and competition with larger events in the county, CSCIA may have trouble getting permits to close roads. Governor Lamb noted that the bill is vague, and she is unsure exactly what might be charged. Town Manager Tewey will likely attend the next County Council meeting on March 20.

Governor Lamb said that plans are still in progress for changing the offices. Repairs need to be made to the concrete sidewalk to make the existing door ADA compliant if it is not replaced. Office cubicles and furniture have been ordered.

President Breeden reported the final write up nominating the Lake Claire beach project for the BUBBA (Best Urban Best Management Practices in the Bay Area) Award was submitted. Recipients are to be announced in about 2 months. Alliance is pursuing other awards as well. The narrative for the US Fish & Wildlife grant application is to be received by March 20 for review, editing, approval and return to Alliance to submit for up to \$75,000 for planning and design, and up to \$500,000 for construction.

President Breeden also gave an update on the Little Magoth River Association (LMRA) plans for dredging. They are hoping to do a dredge of the full channel in late 2023 or in 2024 as part of a state waterway improvement project. CSCIA would need to coordinate with LMRA and BioHabitats to potentially use the dredged sand on the main beach. It could produce about 4,000 yd³ of sand to augment the 1,600 yd³ from their last dredge and a total of 6,000 yd³ was needed to complete the Site 1 project. Without added sand, it was expected to take about 15 to accumulate naturally. The dredge would significantly reduce the time to restore the beach. The last transect report was received today and the Lake Claire report is expected soon so that they can be included in grant applications. It was asked if there would be any other small dredges before that full one, and Mr. Breeden said he thinks that no, the LMRA is probably saving money to put toward the large one.

NEW BUSINESS

Governor Shipley asked if CSCIA owns any Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). There are none so she will research types, pricing, requirements, etc.

Governor Macindoe and President Breeden, as the security committee, recommended that CSCIA increase the pay rate for security officers. The current rate is \$38.50/hr. as W-2 employees (FICA taxes paid by employee and employer). Most entities that hire off-duty officers pay over \$45/hr. with many being as 1099 contractors (SECA tax paid only by contractor). With the lack of officers, only about

\$8000 of the budgeted \$44,000 has been spent this fiscal year. Governor Shipley made a motion to increase the pay rate for security officers to \$45/hr. and reduce the number of hours effective immediately. It was seconded by Governor Angel. Discussion followed, pointing out that Governor Macindoe has been checking the beach and locking the gate about 70% of the time. Hours could be higher in the summer and less in the winter, but the gate does need to be locked nightly and with an officer in the area, that officer can respond to any emergencies quickly. The number of security officers CSCIA can hire is limited because of benefit reasons (over 15 avg. full time means paid time off required for parttime employees). The fact that CSCIA would pay FICA tax makes the position more attractive to officers even if the \$45/hr. pay rate is on the lower end of the average range. Contracted security was priced in the past and typically cost about 3 times as much, required 8-hour shifts, would have to call in officers to any emergency anyway, and would likely require additional insurance. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS

Stacy Wildberger of the Cape Conservation Corps (CCC) announced the event with guest speaker Bud Reaves, county forester, was a success, with over 60 attendees. CCC is preparing for a busy volunteer season. Their first event will be Project Clean Stream, led by Brad Knopf on April 1. Wednesday Weed Warriors will start removing invasive plants on April 5 from 5-7 pm. The Watershed Steward project, to be done at 1265 Swan Dr, will assess needs on April 15 and will work on April 22. Mrs. Wildberger expressed concern about parking for volunteers and was told to submit a party application to allow parking at the nearest Cape property. The Earth Day kickoff event will be held at the Little Magothy beach on April 21, 5:30-7 pm with pizza, walking tours of the park, and a family friendly craft project. Plants arriving on April 28 to are to be planted at Little Magothy Beach on April 29. The native species swap, targeting butterfly bush, will in May. CCC will participate with Girl Scouts at the Strawberry Festival to provide games and educational materials focused on oysters.

Becky Benner announced the Goshen Farm Preservation Society (GFPS) spring open house to be held April 15, 10am-4pm. They will have several vendors such as Raptor Eyes, a library story walk, a recycling representative from the county landfill, and more. President Breeden commended her on the Java & Jazz/Tea & Tunes event, the first since 2019, saying that over 100 people attended.

Mrs. Benner also announced the Garden Club April 4 meeting at 7pm. They will hold a perennials workshop. The plant sale is scheduled for May 20, 8am-2pm. Governor Lamb asked when the Garden Club is planning to work on the clubhouse flowerbeds. Mrs. Benner is to see who has taken over that duty.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Governor Shipley to adjourn to closed session, seconded by Governor Fairchild and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 8:21 pm. The closed session occurred from 8:25 pm to 9:22 pm. The March 13, 2023 CSCIA Board of Governors meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm.