

## BOG Meeting April 12, 2021

In attendance were: Governors Jeff Roche, Bill Szczytko, Dawn Myers, Beau Breeden, Mary Lamb, Cheri Fairchild, Lisa Schmidt, Jerome Zadera and Neil Macindoe, Michele Shipley, Town Manager Ryan Anderson, Budget committee member Charlie Moore and guests Becky Benner, Brian Buchner, and Philippe Ourisson.

President Roche called the meeting to order in an online session of GoToMeeting at 7:31 pm and expressed his gratitude for the positive reaction from the residents to the beach restoration project as well as the news that funding from the state for the Lake Claire site is to be restored. He stated that one of two variance requests had been canceled. The other is for 1260 River Bay Road, a 50 ft wide lot for sale. The potential buyer, Mr. Buchner, is seeking a variance before he finalizes the purchase to allow for 7 ft setbacks on each side instead of 10 ft. The typical Cape lot is about 60 ft x 100 ft. House plans will not be submitted until a decision is reached on the variance because the size of the structure will depend on the setback. Mr. Buchner introduced himself and explained that the house would be the primary residence for his family and his reasons for requesting the variance.

Minutes of the March 8, 2021 BOG meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by Governor Breeden, seconded by Governor Lamb and unanimously approved.

The P&L statement for February had not been finalized due to health concerns by the accountant. The preliminary report was reviewed. Governor Breeden mentioned that he saw only the loan interest of about \$4000, not the \$44,000 loan payment in the preliminary report. Town Manager Anderson said that he would follow up with the accountant.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Beaches and Parks:** Governor Macindoe reported that beach attendants are being hired, the beaches have been busy and that there have been requests for trash cans at Lake Claire. Governor Breeden said that more portable toilets will be delivered before Memorial Day. He reminded everyone that the beaches and parks are to be family friendly and asked that everyone remember to be respectful, act appropriately and watch their language. There are no fires or alcohol permitted. The new jetties create an additional danger and there are no lifeguards, so he cautioned against walking on the jetties or jumping into the water near them. He is working with the Little Magothy River Association to caution the public about the dangers of jetties.

**Broadneck Council of Communities:** Governor Breeden announced the BCC is still busy with legislative issues and development plans for the county and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. The BCC is contacting Senator Sarbanes and Representative Brown and the various federal agencies that have to approve the new bridge span location to express concern that proper studies have not been conducted on the expense to expand Rt 50 from Bowie to Easton vs other alternatives. They hope to have someone consider looking at ways to alleviate traffic by using another location instead of people who live in this area having to deal with it all. He recommended that everyone look into the county General Development Plan and comment because exemptions and variances are already being passed and if we want to affect the regional planning we need to act soon.

**Budget:** Governor Zadera said with piers and beaches and parks heading into their busy seasons, that those committees make any requests that need to be addressed before the end of the fiscal year. Charlie Moore announced the next budget meeting to be held April 29.

**Building:** President Roche said that the process is running smoothly with Town Manager Anderson and Office Administrator Coble assisting in addressing questions and gathering missing information. New houses continue to be built and existing houses improved.

**Caper:** Governor Lamb reported the Caper went out on time this month and that to continue to keep costs down she is requesting that articles be kept to one page.

**Clubhouse:** Governor Lamb said there were several rentals in April, fewer scheduled for May. She will promote rentals in the Caper and on social media. There has been a request to have a weeping cherry tree planted at the clubhouse in memory of a longtime Cape Carden Club member and aerobics participant.

**Covenants:** President Roche and Governor Fairchild stated that residents have been notifying the office of potential covenant infractions and thanked Town Manager Anderson for following up on them.

**Events:** Governor Schmidt announced the Cape Swap to occur in the field behind the clubhouse on Sunday April 18. July 4<sup>th</sup> events are uncertain. Governor Lamb reported the Strawberry Festival has officially been postponed and will hopefully be held August 28. She said there was a lot of positive feedback from the Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt and thanked the Cape St Claire Fire Department for their help with the visit from the Easter Bunny. There are still no definite plans for a Cape Clean Up this year.

**Legislative:** Governor Myers reported the legislation submitted by Delegate Bagnall and Senator Reilly passed, replacing the \$250,000 in funding for Site 2 of the beach restoration project. Other bills addressing riparian rights and notification of permit requests have not passed.

**Piers:** Governor Breedon reported that all pier slip contracts were out and about \$100,000 in piers revenue has been received. Available slips are now being offered to the list of those wishing to change slips. Once all moves are complete, available slips will be offered to those on the waitlist. He said permits for replacing 15 pilings (this spring) and replacing the decking on about 120 feet of the Deep Creek Large pier (this winter) have been obtained. He thanked Piers Administrator Williams for her work. Piers committee meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month to discuss piers issues and plans. About 21 people attended the March meeting and about 16 were at the April meeting. They expressed an interest in social gatherings to get to know other slip holders. A large dead tree was removed along the bulkhead area and damage it caused to stairs was repaired.

**Security:** No report

**Technology:** President Szczytko reported that he uploaded the Caper to the website and the Facebook page.

**Town Manager-** Town Manager Anderson reported that the 4<sup>th</sup> overall payment on the beach restoration project has been made. The company E R & M (Ecological Restoration & Management) will be planting 4,400 plants at Site 1 by boat. Another draw will be made on the loan to make the final Site 1 payment after planting is complete. There is some minor trimming to be done after removing a large tree at Deep Creek, and two trees to plant to close out the vegetation management plan there. The contractor made all repairs to the stairs damaged by the tree removal. The two watershed steward candidates are planning projects at Deep Creek and Lake Claire. There are some former beach attendants returning for 2021 and several interviews scheduled with new applicants. There can be more beach attendants and still keep the average number of employees under 15 due to decreased maintenance staff. Attendants will start mid-May, and at the main beach there will be one at the parking lot and one at the gate for the early summer. Application paperwork for the county Mosquito Control program has been submitted. There is processing paperwork and the program needs to be advertised. Spraying is to start as needed at the end of May. The county Water Quality testing will also begin then. Aerobics continues at the clubhouse on Thursdays. There were rentals of the clubhouse in April. The process to obtain a one-day liquor license is back and has changed somewhat. One can apply online but must make an appointment to pay by check in person at the county offices. The clubhouse is operating with the conditions of 50% capacity, masks, and the modified cleaning contract. The building was pressure washed, the Cape St Claire flag added to the flagpole, and general annual spring maintenance performed at the main beach. The clubhouse security camera system is failing and needs replacing. There was a good turnout at the piers meeting and the next one will be held May 4. Boats are to be in slips by June 1. The county dredging program is planned for October at Deep Creek and CSCIA is included in the permit, but funding needs to be worked out before a decision can be made about whether to have any dredging done at the piers. The piling replacement at Deep Creek is to occur at the end of April. All 4 security positions are filled and 24/30 dates in April are covered by off duty police, Governor Macindoe will cover the remaining six. The Business Lot Owners Association has paid their insurance and security contributions. The Cape St Claire Swim Club owes \$500 in rent and \$750 security fee and are requesting a copy of the lease. Yellow maintenance fee cards were due March 1, stickers were mailed and must be on vehicles parked on Cape properties starting May 1. Only one call has been received about them not being delivered. Mr. Anderson will be checking for stickers until beach attendant shifts start. The unemployment insurance rate for CSCIA has increased from 0.3% to 2.2% due to changes in laws, not the fraudulent claims.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Governor Breedon reported the \$250,000 grant from Maryland for Waterway Improvement will be available this fall. The plantings at Site #1 are being done professionally instead of by volunteers to comply with the requirements by the Chesapeake Bay Trust. We will be able to use volunteers when maintenance plantings are needed. Site #2 construction is not part of the November 15 deadline for hunting season. Tentative dates for construction are November 1 - December 3. Contracts need to be finalized and funding in place for payments before construction starts. The official ribbon cutting to celebrate Site #1 will be April 13, with representatives from the state and county governments, Alliance of the Chesapeake, Biohabitats, Chesapeake Bay Trust and US Fish & Wildlife Service but we cannot invite the public due to the 25 person limit for gatherings.

President Roche reported on the unpermitted stairs that were built near Deep Creek. He is working with the homeowner and the County to get the proper permits completed. We are to have a survey of one the "paper alleys", the various strips of CSCIA owned land around the Cape, and that is in the title search process now. The attorney says the surveyor's report should be available by the next Board meeting for discussion. There are some outstanding pier agreements that have to be signed by homeowners and returned to CSCIA. One resident is contacting an attorney to determine how to proceed with theirs.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

## **COMMENTS**

Becky Benner announced that the Goshen Farm Open House will be held virtually on April 24 from 10 am to 2 pm live on Facebook. At 10 am, there will be a discussion about the Hoop House (greenhouse), the pollinator garden and the Monarch waystation. At 11 am they will showcase the wildlife pond with the floating nest platform with its resident mallard pair, and the sharing community garden. At noon, there will be a tour of the farmhouse. At 1 pm, beekeeper Eric Wallace will discuss the apiary and care of the beehives, 6 of which died out over the winter. The following Wednesday there will be a fundraiser with Broadneck Grill, where 10% of sales from 5-9 pm will be donated to the farm.

Mrs. Benner announced that the Garden Club will hold the plant sale virtually again this year with online orders starting May 1. Curbside contactless pickup will be on River Bay Road May 13, 14 and 15. Yard of the Month judging has begun and signs placed in the yards of the winners for April for the 5 sectors of the neighborhood.

Philippe Ourisson reported the Cape Conservation Corps (CCC) is active with the Weed Warrior volunteers working at the Serene Ravine. Pawpaw trees, skunk cabbage and native perennials are being planted. The Clean Stream program will be April 24, with a maximum of 25 people at each of three sites: Graul's field, Deep Creek and Cape Elementary School. Forty one people have signed up. All 25 slots for swapping invasive plants for native species are filled. Mr. Ourisson inquired what to do about motorized vehicles on the path from the Lake Claire parking lot to the lake. The board recommended that when vehicles are seen someone contact the office so that we can check camera footage and work with the police to stop them.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Governor Breeden to adjourn and move to a closed session. It was seconded by Governor Macindoe and approved unanimously. The April 12, 2021 meeting of the CSCIA Board of Governors was adjourned to a closed session at 8:30 pm.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

A closed session was convened at 8:34 pm and adjourned at 9:12 pm. The regular session of the April 12, 2021 meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.