

Minutes

The Wicomico County Natural Resources Conservation Advisory Committee (NRCAC) met Tuesday, January 10, 2017 in room 300 of the Government Office Building, at 3:00pm with the following persons in attendance:

Committee: Judith Stribling John Groutt Matt Hurd Newell Quinton Bill McCain
Doug Stevens

County Staff: Frank McKenzie, Environmental and Technical Services

Tyler Walston, Environmental Planner

Meeting was called to order at 3:05pm by Ms. Stribling. Minutes for the December meeting were approved, with revisions.

Administrative Updates

Newell Quinton was officially welcomed to the NRCAC.

Invasive Species Update

Mr. Hurd provided information about invasive callery pears. He advised the group that there are agricultural buffers that have callery pear infestations near the airport. Mr. Hurd suggested that callery pear infestations on the airport property may be supplying the seeds for the infestations in the agricultural buffers.

Mr. Hurd asked the group to consider how to advise the county to address the issue of invasives in the county.

Ms. Stribling asked about county mowers spreading invasive seeds during road maintenance.

Mr. Hurd asked about looking for grant money to fund a position for someone to remove invasive species.

Rural Legacy Update

Ms. Stribling advised there was an official approval from County Council.

Mr. McKenzie provided updates on details for submission of the Rural Legacy Expansion to Rural Legacy Staff.

Mr. McCain raised the issue of new poultry operations in conservation easements.

Pirate's Wharf RFP

Mr. Hurd provided an update on the RFP. He stated that it would be sent out in a week or so and was optimistic about getting applicants. Ms. Stribling asked if there was any interest in the project and Mr. Hurd advised that he will be speaking with potential applicants in upcoming weeks.

Paleochannel Protection

Ms. Stribling advised that Teresa Kampmeyer from NRCS said there were parameters within their funding system that rewarded conservation over the Paleochannel

Ms. Stribling suggested that members from the NRCAC meet with NRCS's advisory board in the future.

LPPRP Update

Ms. Stribling asked if the NRCAC members had reviewed the draft, however no one had done so yet. She asked if Mr. Hall would be available to speak to the group, but Mr. McKenzie advised he would likely be unavailable to attend the next meeting.

Pirate's Wharf Field Trip with Mr. Culver

The group agreed to meet at Pirate's Wharf on 1/13/17 at 9am

Board of Education Tree Plantings

Mr. Groutt provided an update on efforts to get tree plantings done on Board of Education properties. He invited Mr. Hurd to an upcoming meeting.