

WICOMICO SCENIC RIVER COMMISSION

Appointed to represent the interests of the Wicomico Scenic River and its tributaries
in Charles and St. Mary's Counties

Minutes of the meeting held on September 14, 2004

Members Present: Members Absent: Guests:

Valerie Nyce, Chairman

Bill Montgomery

Eugene Guazzo

Charles Rice

Walter Saunders

Scott Cosenza

Dick Blohm

Richard Colliflower

Dennis Bridgett

Sue Veith

The meeting was held at the Charles County Government Building, Human Resources Conference Room. A quorum was present.

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed (Cosenza/Blohm.)

Chairman Nyce distributed photos from Pete Cruikshank's retirement dinner.

Treasurer Blohm gave a report on the fund balance. There is about \$3000 available in the budget. Accounting of the funds is being kept on the ledger sheets provided by Charles Rice. There was discussion about using some of the funds for promotional material, such as t-shirts, decals, etc. There was a motion by Colliflower, seconded by Montgomery and carried unanimously to investigate getting some of these materials made. Mr. Montgomery agreed to take the lead.

Charles County Staff Report: Charles Rice advised the Commission that Charles County was about to begin working on an update of its Land Preservation and Recreation Plan. He noted that input from the Commission was welcomed. There was discussion about the lack of public access to the Wicomico River, especially on the Charles County side. There was a motion by Montgomery, seconded by Guazzo and carried unanimously to recommend that Charles County explore opportunities for public access to the river as part of the Plan Update.

Dr. Guazzo reported on progress of the Historic Committee. He advised that he visited the St. Mary's County Library to check on the status of the Wicomico River reference material. The file contains interesting things such as articles about Walter Saunders, photos from the 1930's and 40's, a Federal Publication on Zekiah Swamp, Eulogy to Wes Lion, Wicomico Scenic River Study plan, and various news paper articles. The Commission discussed working with Phyllis Frere to update material in the Charles County Libraries.

Scott Cosenza reported on Regulatory issues and advised of an article in the Enterprise regarding the River being shut down to swimming at Wicomico Shores. There was discussion about getting someone from the St. Mary's Health Department to advise on this issue. Charles Rice sent Sue Veith an e-mail requesting guidance, but got no response. Scott also advised of an article regarding the State developing TMDL's for Charleston Creek. There was a motion by Cosenza, seconded by Montgomery and carried unanimously to invite someone from MDE to advise the Commission on the TMDL issue.

Correspondence: Chairman Nyce advised that the Commission received a letter from the College of Southern Maryland thanking them for participation in the Chautauqua Event. The Commission also received a card from Pete Cruikshank thanking them for the painting and recognition at his

retirement dinner.

Old Business: The Commission agreed to schedule the next adopt a highway cleanup at Allens Fresh on November 6, 2004 at 7:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.