



**Kent Narrows Development Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
February 24, 2015
Chesapeake Heritage and VisitorCenter**

Board Members Present

Dick Smith, Chair
Joe Pomerantz, Vice Chair
Pat Worns, Treasurer
Jerry Dammeyer
Mike Harris
Sheryl Jaros
Sue Kamp
Judy Wink

Board Members Absent

Mike Foster
Jody Schulz
Walt Thompson
Eddie Walters

Commissioner

James Moran

Guests

Linda Friday, QAC Chamber of Commerce
Joe Lauber, Waterman
Ron Lauber, Waterman
Belinda Cook, QAC Arts Council
Walt Crouse, Kent Island Yacht Club

Staff Present

Steve Cohoon, Planning & Zoning
Nancy Scozzari, Parks
Debbie Birch, Economic Development & Tourism

Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Mike Harris to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Sue Kamp and was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

The checking account balance is \$1545.58. The balance in the account held by Chesapeake Charities is \$9489.32.

Public Comments

Nancy Scozzari introduced watermen Joe and Ron Lauber. Joe is interested in taking ownership of the Anna McGarvey. He would like to recondition the boat so that it can be used for oystering. Nancy Scozzari pointed out that the boat was acquired with monies from Program Open Space and there are some terms attached to those monies. Commissioner Moran will meet with Chip Price, QAC Parks Director, to talk about how to move forward. After discussion, Joe Pomerantz made a motion that the Kent Narrows Development Foundation agrees that having the boat reconditioned and put back on the Bay is a good idea. The details will be left to Parks. The motion was seconded by Judy Wink and was unanimously approved.

Presentations

QAC Arts Council- Storytelling Festival

Belinda Cook, Executive Director of the QAC Arts Council, gave an overview of the Storytelling Festival that will be happening on April 10. This year's event is a "teaser event" and the hope is that monies raised will be used as seed money for next year's bigger event. Currently the Arts Council is looking for sponsorship monies. A sponsorship packet is attached with the minutes.

Fireworks on the Narrows

Walt Crouse, Kent Island Yacht Club, gave an overview of the events planned for July 4th in the Kent Narrows area. The fireworks will be launched at 9 p.m. from a barge located south of the KI Yacht Club. The cost of the fireworks display is \$40,500 including the barge. The QAC Commissioners committed \$10,000 to the fireworks display. To date the KI Yacht Club has raised \$25,000 including the \$10,000 from the county. They are looking for additional sponsors.

QAC events leading up to the Fireworks:

July 2: Thursdays in the Park Concert

July 4: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm - Music and food on the Heritage/Visitor Center property

KI Yacht Club

July 2: Opening of the Tiki Bar

July 3: Concert

July 4: food and activities

July 5: possible crab feast

Mr. Crouse stated that on April 25 the KIYC will be holding a "First Responders Appreciation Day." The yacht club is trying to have more community-oriented events.

Roundtable Discussion

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Moran reported the following:

- Congressman Harris's office reported that all procedures had been followed in regards to the Haven Ministries Shelter.
- In the next budget cycle there are 18 new hires, 6 of which are in the Parks Department.
- The Commissioners are looking at tying all the water systems together in the Grasonville/Chester/Stevensville area. It has now become a safety issue.
- Commissioner Moran will be looking at working with the schools and non-profits to come up with a program to assist with picking up trash around the county.

Department Reports

Reports were sent electronically to the Board prior to the meeting.

Debbie Birch reported the following:

- Queen Anne's County was represented for three days at the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg, Pa. A new rack card that promotes fishing, hunting, and shooting was used at the show.
- Priscilla Timpkins, a tour director from the Eastern Shore, will be traveling through the county to meet key business owners so she will have contacts for potential bus tours.
- Debbie Birch will be representing Queen Anne's County at the Maryland Bus Association Marketplace and the Pennsylvania Bus Association Marketplace in March. This will be an opportunity to promote the county as a destination for bus tours.

Economic Development Commission

Currently there is no liaison for the EDC from the KNDF. A new representative will need to be picked.

Old Business

Signs

The sign committee (Mike Harris and Sheryl Jaros) met with SHA, DPW, and Roads. After looking at the options that were presented to them the committee made the recommendation that the signs be removed. The hope is that the signs can be repurposed for use on the Cross Island Trail and in the various parking lots throughout the area. Todd Mohn, DPW, agreed that the Roads Department would remove and store the signs until they were ready to be reused. SHA will continue to work with the KNDF to make sure existing, approved signage is facing in the correct direction and will clean up the remaining signage in the Kent Narrows area.

Mike Harris made a motion that all the signs be taken down by the county and stored by DPW. The motion was seconded by Sue Kamp and unanimously carried.

Revitalization Plan

The KNDF discussed the revitalization plan and how to move forward. Improvements on Route 18 are needed. Nancy Scozzari noted that the KN Plan has similar objectives to the Parks Plan.

Dick Smith asked Nancy Scozzari if she could inform the KNDF when the Parks Department addresses issues in the Kent Narrows area.

Visitor Center Staffing

The KNDF discussed future funding of the weekend staff. When the county was having budget problems, the KNDF started funding the weekend staff at the Visitor Center May through October because they felt it was important to keep the center open on weekends. After discussion, Pat Worns made a motion to ask that the county take over funding the weekend staff at the Chesapeake Heritage and Visitor Center. The motion was seconded by Sue Kamp and unanimously carried. Joe Pomerantz was asked to write a check to cover the costs for weekend staffing for September and October 2014.

New Business

Election of Officers

After discussion the following officers were elected:

President- Dick Smith

Vice President- Joe Pomerantz

Treasurer- Mike Harris

Secretary- Pat Worns

A finance committee comprised of Dick Smith and Mike Harris will develop a scope of work for the treasurer. Mike Harris will also follow up looking for a book keeper who can review the books once a year.

Dick Smith made a motion to add Mike Harris in place of Larry Toth as a signatory on the KNDF checking account. Pat Worns seconded the motion and it unanimously carried.

TOKN

Joe Pomerantz reported that the insurance claim that was filed as a result of the weather event that canceled the TOKN was paid. Of the \$19776 that was requested, \$19376 was paid. \$12,267 will go to the KNDF and \$7009 to Inspired Events.

A motion was made by Joe Pomerantz that the KNDF keep their amount of the insurance claim money and pay Inspired Events their portion. The motion was seconded by Pat Worns and unanimously carried.

Inspired Events will be talking to the restaurants to see if they will want to continue to participate in the event.

Replacement Board Member

Mark Stemen, who was appointed to the KNDF last month, has resigned citing possible conflict-of-interest problems. The position is currently being advertised. It was suggested to Mr. Crouse that the KI Yacht Club might want to have someone submit a resume for possible appointment. The KNDF asked Commissioner Moran if they could look at the resumes of potential replacements and make a recommendation.

Fireworks

Mike Harris made a motion that the KNDF support the fireworks in the Kent Narrows by becoming a Platinum Sponsor (\$2000). The motion was seconded by Joe Pomerantz, and with the exception of one "No" vote, the motion carried.

Adjournment

Joe Pomerantz moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jerry Dammeyer and unanimously carried.

The next meeting will be 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 24, at the Chesapeake Heritage Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Birch
Economic Development and Tourism