MINUTES
for Board Approval
Kent Narrows Development Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Chesapeake Heritage and Visitor Center
March 26, 2019

Board Members Present
Jody Schulz, Chair
Mike Harris, Treasurer
Pat Worms, Secretary
Michael Foster
Victoria Hoffman
Justin Kiernan
Jason Ruth
Walt Thompson
Peggy Young

Board Members Absent with Notice
Joe Pomerantz, Vice Chair
Jerry Dammeyer
Sheryl Jaros
Sue Kamp

Commissioners
James Moran

Commissioner Absent with Notice
Phil Dumenil

KNDF Staff
Gigi Windley, Executive Director

QAC State's Attorney
Lance Richardson

QAC Sheriff
Gary Hofmann, Sheriff
Dwayne Boardman
Morris Jones
Earl Johnston

QAC Staff
Ashley Chanault, Tourism
Jean Fabi, Economic Development
Shane Moore, Public Works
Nancy Scozzari, Parks and Recreation
Paul Sidon, Public Works

Guests
Heather Bacher, Shore United Ban
Larissa Costello, Valliant Associates
Pollux Dietz, Founder, Bio Safe
Linda Friday, QAC Chamber of Commerce
Lou Fuccipont
CALL TO ORDER
With a quorum of directors in attendance, Chair Jody Schulz called to order the regular meeting of the Kent Narrows Development Foundation at 9:02 a.m.

RESOLUTION
Minutes
The Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the February 26, 2019, regular meeting of the KNDF.

FINANCIALS
Mike Harris: The balance in the Queenstown Bank as of 2/28/2019 was $1287.00. The balance in that account as of 3/26 is $4,759. According to the most recent statement provided by the County, the KNDF fund balance is $210,551.00. The Chesapeake Charities account has a balance of $9,876.41. In order to ensure there are enough funds to last until the tax district funds come in, the KNDF should request $10,000 be transferred from the 570 fund.

RESOLUTION
Mike Harris made a motion to transfer $10,000 from the KNDF 570 Fund to the Queenstown Bank account. Walt Thompson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Linda Friday reported on the minimum wage issue and expressed concern about its effect on small business. The current wage is $10.10; it will increase to $11.00 beginning January 1, 2020. She will provide more information on the issue as needed. The Chamber is working with Chesapeake College on the CTE program. Advisory councils are being established. The Chamber is working with businesses that export their goods, and now provides a Certificate of Origin to local businesses involved in exporting. The Chamber’s Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 10. Sponsors are needed.

USE OF PARKING LOT UNDER KENT NARROWS BRIDGE
Sheriff Hofmann and representatives from his office attended at the Foundation’s request to discuss options to prevent motor show and cruising events held under the bridge from becoming unruly and unsafe. The events displace visitors who use the boat ramp, bike trails and other recreational facilities. Customers who patronize local businesses also are displaced. The noise from the events upsets the local businesses and marina residents. The EuroGeeks event scheduled in mid-April is of concern because of the damage and disruption that was caused by last year’s event. Pop-up events that are more local in nature were also discussed.

After a long discussion several recommendations were made:
- A representative from the Sheriff’s Office will contact the event organizer for the EuroGeeks event and request that they gather at an alternative venue, preferably not in Queen Anne’s County.
- Check with the County Attorney to see what entity in the County can be designated as the agent/complainant when issues arise. Nancy will check to see if it is possible for the Park Rangers to be designated to do this.
- Review the current language in the County Code related to events and enforce any violations.
- Have the County set the rules for the lot. Separate language that designates the lot as special zone and match the uses that are currently in the articulated in lease with the State of Maryland to that zone.
- Signs that say “no events may be held without a permit” could be developed and placed at the entryway to the lots. Enforcement can’t happen unless the signs are visible.

PRESENTATION: KENT ISLAND BEACH CLEANUPS
Jon Weed from Kent Island Beach Cleanups is focusing on the source of the trash. They have identified that reducing the distribution of single-use plastics would help to improve the current situation. Mr. Weed introduced [WHOM?] Pillux Diet, founder, Bio Safe.[??] Bio Safe has invented a biodegradable straw made from corn starch. The straws
will be manufactured in Baltimore. He passed out and demonstrated the prototype and hopes to be taking orders soon. He will follow up by sending a press kit out to KNDF Members through the office.

**UPDATE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

Jean Fabi reported that Queen Anne's County has entered into an agreement with the Baltimore Development Corporation to become a part of Baltimore Foreign Trade Zone # 74. The trade zone is a federally designated area located within the US, yet considered outside U.S. Custom's territory for the purpose of assessing and collecting import duties and taxes. This will help some local manufacturing business. The County has a new website, for Economic Development that links to the Maryland Department of Commerce's property database.

Ashley Chenault reported that the Tourism Office also is working on a new website that will include a live feed from a webcam positioned at the Chesapeake Heritage and Visitors Center, overlooking the Kent Narrows strait. The office will be represented at the upcoming Maryland Motorcoach Association and Pennsylvania Bus Association Group Leader Shows.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**BEACH TO BRIDGE INITIATIVE**

Commissioner Moran gave a briefing on the initiative to mitigate the impacts of the pass-through beach traffic on the local community and to make roads passable for emergency vehicles. The intent is not to disrupt the businesses. Copies of the Beach To Bridge plan that was developed by QAC officials were distributed. Commissioner Moran requested that businesses provide feedback on the effects of the congestion on their businesses. The State is reviewing the plan to see if it will be allowed. The current plan calls for Exit 42 westbound to be barricaded with restricted access. Commissioner Moran stated that if the State approves the plan, the County will come back to the KNDF board for approval of the plan as it affects Exits 41 and 42.

**TIF UPDATE**

Jon Seeman reported on TIF study. The current list of projects is about 18 million dollars out of the 8-10 million dollars of the public projects that could be funded. Affordability will be in an 8-10 million dollar range. The TIF helps to fund the current inadequate infrastructure. They have a comprehensive list of $34 million in total projects from which to choose. The priority is for sewer and water projects. Johnathan will send copies of the latest report to distribute to the KNDF Board. Meetings will occur with the developers in early April.

**UPDATE ON THE DREDGING PROJECT**

James Wood from Public Landings gave an update on the Channel dredging. 16,000 cubic yards was pumped out of the channel to Eastern Neck Island. The US Fish and Wildlife Service was helpful in finding the site for the spoils. The channel was dredged to a depth of minus 7 feet and in some areas, minus 9 feet. The project came in ahead of schedule and under budget. The permanent markers are outside the channel. The message it boaters is to "center yourself" between the markers. James asked that the KNDF help to get that message out. He is hoping to work to get small navigation aids to funnel boats through. John Gallagher with DNR can help to get this initiative started.

Additional discussion occurred related to how the Foundation could work with the County and other agencies to make the area around the Kent Narrows Jetty safer. Navigation aids, lights and reflectors were discussed as possible solutions. The Coast guard has a manual that would guide the decision making. A follow up meeting will be called to address the issues.

**Director’s Report**

**NEW BUSINESSES**

There is a new owner of the former Coastal Cottage. The name has changed to Ophiuroidea (pron: O-fi-ray-de-ah), or “The O.” The owner has another store in St. Michael’s with the same name.

**EVENTS**

The Kent Narrows Boat Expo will be held over four consecutive April weekends at Harrison’s Yacht Yard and at Bridges. The show begins on April 5.

**WVC IMPROVEMENTS**

**CONSTRUCTION ON THE CROSS COUNTY CONNECTOR TRAIL IS UNDERWAY**
Closures and other disruptions are expected at Exit 42 to accommodate the Cross County Connector Trail Construction Project. Expect daytime closures on weekdays off westbound exit ramp 42 from 7 am to 3 pm.

Delmarva Power will temporarily remove the existing overhead street lighting electric wire on Monday March 25th. There will be no street lighting along Kent Narrows Road for approximately three weeks.

INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING
MuniCap made a presentation before the County Commissioner on February 26. The Commissioners voted to move forward with the project. Following that, Jon Seeman arranged a phone meeting with MuniCap. Some of the public projects were adjusted by the County. A parking garage was added, at the County’s request and the point was made that timing is important, a garage project was in the speculative category, and all of the other projects listed were much further along. The County team has been working through the Governmental Phase since last June.

TRAFFIC MITIGATION
KNDF attended the County’s focus group meeting to offer suggestions on the County’s “Beach to Bridge” proposal. The proposal places checkpoints at various exits, closes some roads, and re-routes local traffic. Westbound Exit 42 East is the most affected exit in the Waterfront region; opposition to restricting traffic flow on that exit was expressed. The plan has not been approved by SHA/MDOT.

PROMOTION
KNDF will have a booth at the Maryland Motorcoach Association’s Group Leader show in Dover. A survey has been sent to properties that can host groups. Information garnered from the survey will be entered on a new page for our website that specifically focuses on group tours.

Kentnarrowsmd.com has been updated to include information on the Exit closures and construction information. We also are reworking it to prepare for Spring and the opening of the seasonal businesses. Information on the Boat Expo was also posted.

Recipe Cards
Stories of the Kent Narrows Recipe Cards are now available to use as a giveaway. Harris Crab house is featured. The Foundation will be featuring recipes from other restaurants as they are submitted.

PROJECTS
Beacon Study
The Economic Impact Study is scheduled to be complete by May. The Upper Shore Regional Council will pay the bill directly so this portion of the grant won’t show up in our operating budget.

Wayfinding Sign Program
Developing a placement plan for the project. Research has begun on signage that is appropriate for the WV.

NEW BUSINESS
EXIT 42 DETOUR SCHEDULED FOR THE CROSS ISLAND CONNECTOR TRAIL
Paul Sidon of Queen Anne’s County Public Works reported on the progress with the Cross Island Connector Trail. The trail is scheduled to be complete by November or December of 2019. Exit 42 westbound off of Rt. 301/50 will be closed for at least 20 days this Spring to accommodate the construction. The exit will be closed on weekdays from 7 to 3.

A project map and updates can be found on the QAC Roads website at https://www.qac.org/1205/Cross-County-Connector-Trail-Grasonville and on the Departments of Public Works’ Facebook page.

FOUR SEASONS
Information from Mike Irons on the Four Seasons project was distributed to Board members. Commissioner Moran explained that a request has been made to extend the Developer’s Rights and Responsibilities Agreement to expire in 2030 rather than 2022. This is due to the delays in the original project timeline. Mike Foster advised that the upcoming hearing before the County Commissioners was a necessary part of the extension process. The extension decision is through the Court system, not QAC.
PAD MAP
It was suggested that the Kent Narrows Pad Map be updated and reprinted for the season, as it is a useful tool. Gigi will work to do the updates and get prices for the reprinting.

ADJOURNMENT
Pat Worns moved to adjourn the meeting; Victoria Hoffman seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The next meeting of the Foundation is scheduled for 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 23, at the Chesapeake Heritage and Visitors Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Georgeanna (Gigi) Windley, Executive Director
Kent Narrows Development Foundation

Certification
I hereby certify that these are a true and correct copy of the Minutes that were adopted by the Directors of this Foundation on 4/23/2019.

[Signature]