

**SUMMARY OF THE MASONVILLE
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
April 4, 2017 5:30PM
1000 Frankfurst Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21226**

Attendees:

Angie Ashley Consulting: Angie Ashley
Ben Franklin High School: Kelly Oglesbee
Canton Kayak Club: Jake Shearer
Chesapeake Center for Youth Development: Rodette Jones
Cox Creek COC: Gary Gakenheimer
Greater Bay Brook Alliance/ Community Member: Janet Eveland
Living Classrooms Foundation (LCF): Patty Parsley
Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Timothy Maynard
Maryland Department of Transportation's Port Administration (MPA): Chris Correale, Katrina Jones, Bill Lear, Shawn Kiernan, Kristen Fidler
Masonville Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair: Mike Sakowski
National Aquarium: Curtis Bennett
Vulcan Materials: John Smack
Greater Baltimore Wilderness: Marlo Atkinson

Action Items:

1. Ms. Ashley will send all members' links to IBR and eel passage videos, as well as the GreenPort Newsletter with details on upcoming events. *(Complete)*
2. Ms. Ashley will contact members who were not in attendance and brief them on the meeting and share meeting materials.
3. MPA will forward the photo contest information to all members once available. This contest is aimed at creating an increased social media presence for MPA. *(Complete)*
4. Ms. Ashley will work with MES to provide Ms. Eveland with an overview map of the onsite mitigation projects; this will be included for all members in the meeting summary. *(Complete)*
5. Local fish consumption guidelines and link to more information will be included in the meeting summary. *(Complete)*
6. A more detailed discussion of the Conservation Easement and Land Trust will be added to the agenda for the October meeting.

Statements for the Record:

None.

1.0 Welcome & Introductions

Mr. Sakowski called the meeting to order. Mr. Sakowski then asked the meeting attendees to introduce themselves.

Mr. Sakowski moved to approve the October 4, 2016 Meeting Summary as final and Patty Parsley second his motion.

2.0 Citizen Science and Community Projects

Curtis Bennett, NA

Mr. Bennett provided an overview of current programs offered by the National Aquarium (NA) since the last MCAC meeting. In fall 2016, the NA hosted the Curtis Bay Community Cleanup. The event was attended by 32 people in the community; 40 recycle bins and cleanup kits were distributed to the participants. Mr. Bennett stated that in the fall of 2016, 16 residential habitat gardens were installed as a part of a residential habitat program focused on residents of Brooklyn and Curtis Bay. This is part of a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant. Consultations were given to each resident to help choose plants for their garden, residents were also assisted with installation of their gardens. Nine more gardens are planned to be installed this spring. The NA is also working with The Well, a women's mentoring organization located in Curtis Bay, as part of a separate program funded by a Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant. This is all part of a bigger effort on part of the NA and the National Wildlife Federation to make Baltimore City the largest community habitat in the Chesapeake Bay region. Certifying over 600 homes, ten schools and six parks, it is likely that this goal will be achieved next year.

In November the EPA diversity work group held its meeting at Masonville Cove. The NA lead a breakout session on some of the community engagement work happening at Masonville and the communities of Brooklyn and Curtis Bay. The NA talked about the processes and best practices for how to engage community's moving forward. Mr. Bennett stated that the session was very well received by the group.

Recruiting was held for the Urban Conservation and Education Internship Program. Presentations were given at local universities. Four students will be selected to participate in the two-month summer program. Ms. Ashley asked how many applications were received for the program. Mr. Bennett replied that between 40 and 45 applications were received. Mr. Bennett stressed that it was very important to make the face to face connections, to talk to students and faculty and connect students to what the program is about.

The NA is currently working with Ben Franklin High School to replant a rain garden and design a mural behind that rain garden. As part of this, visioning sessions have been hosted with the students to help the students think about some of the challenges of the rain garden and help students develop solutions. A group of students came up with drawing designs, talking about story telling through art specifically the story of the rain garden. Additional gardening workshops have taken place at The Well.

Project Clean Stream took place at Masonville Cove; between 70 and 80 people attended and removed around 1700 pounds of trash from the Cove. Plastics and recyclables were separated as part of the Terra Cycle program; 20 to 21 boxes of plastics were shipped off to be remade into shampoo bottles in France. On April 11, replanting of the Dream Center garden will take place, it will include a sign in both English and Spanish to speak to the story of that community garden, and this is in collaboration with the

Pathway Church of God. BenFest is scheduled to take place April 22, the NA and LCF will have tables for this event. The Ben Franklin High School senior's day of service is April 27; Mr. Bennett stated that the seniors, because of their connection to Masonville Cove, specifically asked to do their day of service at the Cove. The NA will work with the seniors to help install some pollinator gardens, complete a large scale debris cleanup, and potentially perform a mini BioBlitz on that day. The Curtis Bay community cleanup is scheduled for April 29, 2017. The NA will be working with The Well, Community Association of Curtis Bay and other partners to facilitate that event. This year's Masonville Cove BioBlitz is scheduled for June 24, 2017.

3.0 Masonville Cove Project

Tim Maynard, MES

DMCF Operations and Landside Construction

Mr. Maynard presented updates for construction and inflow projects at the Masonville DMCF as well as updates regarding the status of mitigation projects associated with the Masonville Cove project. As of October 10, 2016, the Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) inflow was completed with 174,806 cubic yards of material pumped into the cell in the Kurt Iron Slip (KIS) area. As of February 28, 2017, an estimated total of 1,751,000 cubic yards of material has been inflowed into the Masonville DMCF. Currently, no inflow projects are planned for 2017.

Mr. Maynard gave a brief outline about the future of dike raisings for the Masonville DMCF. It was clarified that the dike raisings at Masonville DMCF will be a gradual process and that the next raising will bring the dikes to an elevation of +18 from its current elevation of + 10 and that eventually the dikes will reach an elevation of +42. The current two spillways located within the Masonville DMCF will also be modified and raised to accommodate the higher dike elevations. A question was asked by Mr. Smack of Vulcan Materials in regards to the recent contract awarded to Cormar Marine for dike construction work. Mr. Maynard explained that this work was separate from the overall dike raising and that the work Mr. Smack was inquiring about was for undercut dredging and cross dike construction across the KIS. The KIS has been the focus of a majority of the Masonville inflow activity for the past two years. The KIS will be diked off, filled, and paved to an elevation of +10 to become additional marine terminal space.

Mitigation and Community Enhancements

Mr. Maynard presented a chart listing all current and ongoing mitigation projects associated with the Masonville Project as well as a chart showing some of the already completed projects. As of October 2016, the tidal wetland creation areas including the Living Shoreline (0.55 acres), the Access Zone (AZ) 2 area West of Pier (0.62 acres), AZ 2 North of the Thumb (1.24 acres) and the tidal wetland enhancement (the Thumb) area (2.0 acres) have been planted and that vegetation surveys for these areas will begin this spring. The AZ 3 tidal wetland creation (1.98 acres) plantings are expected to take place this spring, which will come together for a total of 4.4 acres of tidal wetland creation. Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) permit standards are 85% coverage of native vegetation. The Living Shoreline has currently had two years of monitoring completed as of September 15, 2016. The first year of monitoring had 54% vegetation coverage. The second year saw a slight decrease to 53% vegetation coverage. Supplemental plantings are in the design phase for this area and should take place spring 2017.

As of April 2017, six nontidal wetlands have been constructed and planted. A seventh wetland is planned for construction in the spring of 2017. The second year of monitoring was completed for two of the nontidal wetlands as of September 2016; the Maryland in Miniature (0.06 acres) and 0.22 acre forested wetland. The first year of monitoring was completed for three of the nontidal wetlands in September and October of 2016, this included Wetland A, C, and D. Currently all these wetlands met hydric soil requirements and water ponding requirements. The MDE standards are 85% vegetation coverage, 14 days of ponding or water table within 12 inches of soil surface, and presence of hydric soils. The second year of monitoring for the Maryland in Miniature proved hydric soils, 14 days of ponded water and 96% vegetation coverage. The second year monitoring the forested wetland proved hydric soils in part of the wetland, low tree vegetation survival rate, and minimal days of ponded water. Shallow wells to measure water tables within two nontidal wetlands were installed and monitored over the 2016 season, and showed hydrology to continue to be an issue within the forested wetland. Adjustments to this wetland are needed and discussions with MDE have started to take place. A question was asked by Ms. Eveland in regards to the MES designations of each wetland and how they can be identified on a map and if it was available on the website for the cove. Mr. Maynard and Ms. Ashley stated that those designations are used by MES to keep track of each wetland. Ms. Ashley stated that a layered map can be provided of all mitigation projects at Masonville (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Masonville Cove Mitigation



Mr. Maynard presented and discussed some of the techniques used for monitoring the nontidal wetlands including the use of Indicator in Reduction of Soils (IRIS) Tubes for the detection of hydric soils. A hydric soil is either permanently or seasonally saturated with water resulting in anaerobic conditions as found in most wetlands. IRIS tubes have helped us identify these soils by reading the amount of iron paint dissolved off the tube as a result of chemical reactions within the soils.

Sand and reef ball placement within the cove was completed in May 2015. The first year of monitoring of the Masonville Cove fish habitat improvement project began in May 2016 and was completed for the season in October. This monitoring consisted of the following monitoring events: three plankton tows that took place in May, July, and September; three gillnetting and seining events that took place in June, August, and October; and one pop trap event that took place in August. The plankton tows showed presence of nine species inside Masonville Cove and thirteen species immediately outside of Masonville Cove as well as eight species in the Thoms Cove reference station. Plankton are small organisms that live in the water column that provide food to larger aquatic organisms. Seining produced less than expected quantities of fish within the Cove, therefore seining techniques are being modified for the 2017 season to include additional passes at each location. The pop trap event consists of placing crab traps, eel traps, and shrimp traps. Traps were set on the Cove floor for a 24 hour period. No crabs were captured. One American eel was captured (28cm). No grass shrimp were captured but there was an abundance of non-target species captured consisting mostly of juvenile fish. Benthic surveys and reef ball scrapings took place September – October. Mr. Maynard showed examples of an active gill net and a plankton tow. Ms. Eveland inquired as to whether seining and gill netting harm the fish populations within the Cove. Mr. Maynard stated that fish are immediately released after sampling and that some fish do not survive the sampling process, but that this accounts for a small sample size of the actual fish population and some fish species such as Menhaden are less resilient than other species. Ms. Eveland asked about the potential for consumption of caught fish within the Cove. Mr. Kiernan and Ms. Correale stated that there is an active fish advisory regardless of the work taking place within the Cove for the consumption of fish that limits the amounts and types of fish you should consume. Ms. Parsley stated that fish advisory guidelines are posted on the dock within the Cove. A link is provided below for reference.

<http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/marylander/fishandshellfish/pages/fishconsumptionadvisory.aspx>

A Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Natural Filters Grant was awarded to the Maryland Department of Transportation's Port Administration (MPA) in October 2013 for the planting of trees to be used as Total Maximum Daily Load credits. One hundred trees per acre were planted in 9.9 acres of AZ 2 completed on April 20, 2015 and 4.6 acres of 100 trees per acre were planted in AZ 3 completed on December 11, 2015. Monitoring took place in April, August, and November 2016 recording a 93% overall survival rate. Trees that did not survive (103 trees) the first year were replaced with new trees in December 2016.

Mr. Maynard stated the Daniels Dam eel passage was turned off for the 2016 season on October 14, 2016. The 2016 monitoring year was the most productive year so far with 32 eels, compared to 2015 - 28 eels, and 2014 - 14 eels. The eel ladder will be reinstalled for the 2017 season in early to mid-April.

In regards to Shad and Herring stocking that the DNR staff continued to analyze adult otoliths, which is a calcium carbonate structure located on the inner ear of the fish and growth rings found on the otoliths

can be counted and used to determine the aging of many fish. The DNR hatchery would mark the larval and juvenile fish before they were released. Some hatchery marks are present in the samples, indicating successful recruitment of hatchery produced larvae and juveniles to the migratory spawning population. However, it is too early in the analysis process to draw any conclusions if hatchery produced larvae and juveniles are being recruited into the spawning population. DNR will continue assessment activities in 2017.

Mr. Maynard stated that as of January 2017, 547 tons of trash has been collected by Mr. Trash Wheel. The waterwheel powered trash interceptor continues to operate effectively at the mouth of the Jones Falls River. MPA has opted for the installation of a waterwheel instead of the jib crane design for the Masonville Cove trash interceptor. The contract was issued in March 2017, with completion of the wheel expected by the end of the year. The Masonville wheel will be designed similarly to the Jones Falls and Canton Park wheel, but on a smaller scale. Stakeholders will be able to use it in educational programming. The Masonville trash wheel will be constructed off site and floated to the Masonville Cove. Ms. Eveland Inquired about the potential for naming the future Masonville trash wheel once it is established at Masonville cove, Mr. Maynard and Mr. Kiernan stated that no plans has been decided yet as far as naming and other features for the Masonville trash interceptor.

Mr. Maynard stated that construction is to begin this spring on the trash interceptor located at the Dundalk Marine Terminal with completion by the end of 2017. The trash interceptor will be a hydrodynamic separator that uses swirl concentration and patented continuous deflective separation (CDS) to screen, separate and trap trash and debris from storm water runoff. A video was presented of a similar interceptor and can be seen at the following link.

<http://www.conteches.com/products/stormwater-management/treatment/cds.aspx?gclid=CIC67OuCotMCFYUjgQodj2wM9A>

4.0 Masonville Site Access Study

Shawn Kiernan, MPA

Mr. Kiernan stated that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) had named Masonville Cove as the nation's first Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership on September 26, 2013. This allowed MPA to apply for and receive funds from the Federal Highway Administration under the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) to undertake a feasibility study to improve access to Masonville. The Multi-modal Transportation Feasibility Study looks at various non-car transportation methods such as walking, bicycles, public transit, water access, etc.

Mr. Kiernan discussed some of the pedestrian access options including a shared use (biking/walking) path traveling on the westbound side of Frankfurst Avenue and improvements to the intersection of Frankfurst Avenue and Hanover Street. Shuttle and shared mobility options were also mentioned including contracting with a bus/shuttle service, renting vans when needed or possibly utilizing a ride share company such as Lyft or Uber. Managing marine transportation options for access to the Masonville Cove including access via kayak or water taxi continue to be discussed as possible options to provide better public access to the site.

Mr. Kiernan stated that they were looking at the possibility of having a bus stop put at Masonville to provide site access. Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) does not currently provide service along

Frankfurt Avenue and MTA's Baltimore Link redesign is not anticipated to include service along Frankfurt Avenue. In the future, MTA or Baltimore City may be able to apply for Mobility on Demand Grant Funds through the Federal Transit Administration. Ms. Eveland asked Mr. Kiernan about the city's plans to tear up Frankfurt Avenue and install a new sewer line. Mr. Kiernan stated that the work the city plans to complete will only be in the center of the road and will not affect the shoulder of the road and that any potential site access projects would be mutually compatible with the road work. Currently there are no set plans or a schedule from Baltimore city in regards to the work on Frankfurt Avenue.

Mr. Kiernan explained that the next steps for the site access study were to review comments from the March 16, 2017 community meeting and hold a second community meeting presenting the most feasible transportation options with community recommendations. The second community meeting is scheduled to take place on May 18, 2017 at the Ben Franklin High School. Potential next steps include seeking partners or sponsors to pursue design funding FLAP Grant for selected multi-modal transportation improvement option(s). Then finally, seeking partners or sponsors to pursue construction and implementation FLAP Grant for selected multi-modal transportation improvement option(s)

5.0 Education and Campus Operations

Patty Parsley, LCF

Ms. Parsley stated that the campus is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9AM to 4PM and Saturdays from 9AM to 1PM and that the campus is seeing typically 35 visitors per month and that most of the people coming to the campus are birders. The greenhouse on the campus is operational and Living Classrooms Foundation (LCF) is doing a few projects with growing native plants from seeds to promote pollinator habitat, this involves the students and the community. There are lots of opportunities to come out and participate in garden cleanups, bird walks, citizen science and monitoring nesting birds.

Ms. Parsley stated that LCF staff are doing lots of outreach events in schools and field trips at the Masonville Cove campus. LCF staff has worked with over 1,100 students in March 2017 alone with over 300 of those students being new to the program. LCF also ran two family engagement events for their BEE SMART partner schools. The LCF staff at Masonville will be seen at many upcoming community festivals this spring:

- 4/22 is BenFest;
- 4/29 Mayor's Cleanup at the Curtis Bay Recreation Center;
- 5/6 Bodkin Environmental Fair;
- 5/18 Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education Annual Youth Summit;
and
- 5/19 Baltimore birding weekend event at Masonville Cove.

Mr. Sakowski asked whether the Masonville Cove web site traffic is being tracked in any way to see how many people visit the site. Ms. Parsley stated that LCF currently does not monitor this type of data and that the most of the educator's very time constricted. Members expressed interest in programs keyed specifically towards adults. Currently no such programming exists at Masonville cove geared specifically towards adults.

6.0 Innovative and Beneficial Use

Kristin Fidler, MPA

Ms. Fidler presented an update on the progress underway regarding Innovative and Beneficial Use of dredged material. A short video was shown called Sediment to Solutions: Channeling Innovation that can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.mpa.maryland.gov/greenport/publications.php>

A question was asked by Ms. Eveland about what is actually in dredge material. Ms. Fidler explained that dredge material is silts and sands and some clay that are very fine. Ms. Eveland went on to inquire about the presence of heavy metals within the material. It was also explained that dredge material can contain some heavy metals and that it is often naturally occurring based on the makeup of the sediment in the region. The material undergoes rigorous testing to ensure it is safe for where it plans to be used.

Ms. Fidler stated that Innovative Reuse (IR) and Beneficial Use projects are a real tool rooted in the recommendations of the Harbor Team, which led to the formation of the IR Committee. The IR Committee explored different dredged material alternatives in depth and reported their findings to the Executive Committee, which ultimately led to MPA re-vamping its entire approach to implementing IR and creating a new strategy to follow. Based on that revised strategy, MPA convened a high-level Interagency Workgroup to take a deep look into the statutory or regulatory barriers in the state that were keeping IR from thriving. Based on that review and a comprehensive look at best practices around the country, the Workgroup set out to recommend policies that would establish a clear and predictable regulatory framework for any and all technologies looking to do IR while ensuring it was protective of human health and the environment. The Interagency Regulatory Workgroup has been meeting for almost two years; issued its final report and recommendations in June of 2016 and has begun implementing those recommendations over the last six months

The Workgroup's Final Report identified five key policy recommendations:

- First – the Workgroup recommended that MDE issue technical guidance and technical screening criteria that would be the one-stop shop manual for someone looking to conduct an IR project. The manual would cover questions such as what permits are needed, who at MDE is the point of contact, what environmental and public health standards will be applied to a project's proposal.
- Second – were there already existing permitting mechanisms in place that language could be added to authorize the IR of material removed from the shipping channels.
- Third – if the Workgroup wants the private sector to engage in IR, and the general public to be supportive of it, state agencies should be a leader in this arena and set the example, showing that this sediment is a valuable natural resource with great potential for safe reuse.
- Fourth – if IR was going to be successful in Maryland, the Workgroup needs to work very hard to build a strong foundation of stakeholder engagement and outreach that the DMMP has established and continue to build public support and awareness of utilizing dredged material as a resource. The Workgroup will continue to check in on whether the need or benefit of changing the statute or Code of Maryland (COMAR) is necessary.

Ms. Fidler stated that on March 21, 2017 MDE posted on their website a DRAFT Technical Guidance Document with Technical Screening Criteria for dredged material. The Screening Criteria are risk-based

and will be applied to the proposed end-use of the product. They are calculated using an EPA regional screening level and the program establishes a tiered set of categories of dredged material based on the quality but also based on site specific factors of where the material is going to be deposited. The guidance document itself guides prospective end users of dredged material (or fill as it essentially becomes) through the various steps, permits or approvals necessary based on the proposed project. It covers the sampling requirements, environmental and public health standards, and long-term management needs. Ms. Fidler explained that it is a living document; while the Workgroup focused on engineered fill, manufactured soil, landfill cover, brownfields reclamation, roadway construction materials, and aquatic habitat restoration in this draft, the expectation is that as new technologies and proposed end uses emerge, the document will be updated.

Ms. Fidler stated that as for Recommendation Four, building public support and awareness, the Workgroup started the presentation with one of their brand new marketing pieces, the video. Other new marketing pieces include an infographic that uses the same graphics and icons as the video, which helps complement the suite of outreach tools they are looking to share far and wide! Displayed prominently in both the video and the infographic is the new catchy tagline "Sediment to Solutions: Channeling Innovation", all of this in an effort to try to capture a technical and wonky topic in an interesting way that will resonate positively with a variety of audiences. A couple of other outreach efforts the Workgroup is working on include two other fact sheets which you can be found on the GreenPort website, a ramped up social media presence that includes a soon to be announced photo contest, and a call to MPA's partners to give presentations.

Ms. Fidler stated that they are currently in the public review and comment period for MDE's DRAFT Guidance Document and Technical Screening Criteria. This open review period will close at the end of the day Friday May 26, 2017. A month before that, on April 25, 2017 (a Tuesday evening) MDE will host a public forum on the Guidance materials for anyone interested in getting to know this in much greater detail. The public meeting will be at MDE Headquarters (1800 Washington Blvd). The goal is for the document to be finalized/approved by MDE this summer. MPA will also continue to build public support through postings, press, and presentations. Before the start of actual use of dredged material, MPA will continue to work with partners like State Highway Administration and MES on some test blends of dredged material with substances like Portland cement, and then complete all of the different geotechnical and environmental testing that is needed to make sure the blend is suitable. Through those blends and tests, the Workgroup is continuously planning for and identifying potential opportunities for several demonstration projects.

Ms. Fidler encouraged the members in attendance to like them on social media, watch their video, share photos from Masonville, HMI, Poplar or Cox Creek on the Port of Baltimore's Instagram or Facebook page (portofbalt) and subscribe to the GreenPort Newsletter.

7.0 Harbor Development Update

Chris Correale, MPA

Ms. Correale stated that the existing Cox Creek DMCF is in the process of being expanded. Demolition at the site is 90% complete. Remediation of building 201 is underway after it was found to contain high levels of PCBs. MPA is currently working with EPA to determine the best way forward for cleaning the site. The Cox Creek Operations and Maintenance Complex is nearing procurement. Base dike engineering plans are nearly complete. Ms. Correale announced that a Public Information Meeting was

being held on April 6, 2017 at the Riviera Beach Fire Hall and that site tours of Cox Creek would be available on April 8, 2017 at 10:00 AM. Inflow to Cox Creek DMCF from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) maintenance dredging will occur in late April. The placement will take about two weeks. MPA will be hosting tours for the Public to view the inflow, dates are to be scheduled.

Ms. Correale stated that the filling of the CAD cell was completed in February with ~62,000 cubic yards of federal maintenance material dredged from the Ferry Bar Channel. Post-placement monitoring will occur regularly for the next year. A video was shown of a bottom dump scow placing material in the CAD.

Ms. Correale stated that MPA desires to make ship traffic in and out of the channels that go all the way from Virginia and end in the Port of Baltimore more efficient for post Panamax vessels. MPA is working with USACE on a study for widening the channels. There will be no dredging for widening in the Harbor. Channels in Maryland outside of the North Point – Rock Point line will be widened from a current 700 ft. wide to 800 ft. and the York Spit and Rappahannock Shoal Channels in VA will be widened from 800 ft. to 1,000 ft.

8.0 Upcoming Events and Open Discussion

Angie Ashley, Angie Ashley Consulting

Ms. Ashley closed the meeting and thanked all that attended; the meeting ran past the 7:30 end time so no open discussion took place.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

- Next Masonville CAC Meeting is October 3, 2017
- Annual Meeting November 2, 2017