Maryland Coastal Bays Program
Citizens Advisory Committee

West O Bottle Shop
12611 Ocean Gateway, Ocean City, MD

March 17, 2015
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Attendees:

- Steve Parker, retired TNC, environmental organization
- Dave Wilson, MCBP
- Jennifer Rafter, MCBP
- Amanda Poskaitis, MCBP
- Carol Cain, MCBP
- Sandi Smith, MBCP
- Kristi Connell, Old Dominion Investment Corp., finance
- Josh Esworthy, 19th Hole Golf Getaway, golfing
- Jean Fry, birding
- Larry Fry, birding
- Dave Hambury, West O Bottle Shop, business owner
- Bob Hulburd, Nationwide, insurance
- Shawn Johnson, environmental outreach
- Bill Killinger, boating
- Jolene Killinger, citizen
- Tiffany Nace, Worcester County schools
- Emily Nock, Salisbury Jaycees, civic organization
- Sharyn O’Hare, Ocean Pines Board of Directors and realtor
- Kate Patton, Lower Shore Land Trust, environmental organization
- Troy Purnell, Purnell Properties, development/residential construction and real estate
- Jeff Smith, Perdue Farms, chicken farming
- Larry Walton, forestry consultant, timber industry

Introductions were made at 5:45 p.m.

Steve was nominated as the chair of the CAC. All were in favor.

Dave Wilson explained the CAC will help with policy direction and volunteer efforts. Dave then gave an overview of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. He explained, in regards to a question, that a state must apply to have a National Estuary Program enstated and some are not accepted. Dave overviewed MCBP’s science and policy structure detailing the Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), Implementation Committee (IC), Board of Directors, and Policy Committee.
Sharon O’Hare from Ocean Pines asked how to become a partner of MCBP. Dave told her that he has contacted the board of OP.

Dave went over MCBP’s volunteer opportunities including horseshoe crab surveys, bird banding, seal stewards, terrapin counts, the Osprey Sprint Triathlon, and parade floats.

Dave detailed MCBP’s habitat restoration projects: Skimmer Island, four new dredge spoil islands, the Bishopville dam removal, Ayers Creek kayak launch, Perdue property restoration at Showell, Ilia Fehrer, and Greys Creek. He added that MCBP owns a beach hut and kayak stand at Assateague Island.

Jen Rafter overviewed CAC goals and activities. Jen asked attendees to check off what they are interested in on the CAC activities paper. Sandi Smith went over fundraisers and where we need help. The poker run and/or luau could be revived with help from CAC members. Jen asked how many people were familiar with MCBP when first contacted. All raised hands.

Dave Wilson added that MCBP needs CAC representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, banking, and real estate. Sharon O’Hare from OP does real estate, as does Troy Purnell. No other CAC members had suggestions.

Jen asked to set the next meeting date. Third Tuesdays were accepted. Steve suggested having a round table and went over the importance of business working with nature. Josh Esworthy suggested Worcester County Youth and Family Services in Berlin as a location with a round table. Chair Steve Parker gave his email address, sparkertnc@gmail.com.

Jen Rafter asked if anyone would like a guest presentation at the next meeting. CAC members were interested in offshore drilling and offshore wind issues.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.