



# Wetlands/Coastal Dune Board

## Regular Meeting

Town Hall  
May 7, 2009  
4:00 p.m.

At approximately 4:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, Scott Walker, acting as Chairperson in the absence of Vice Chairwoman Ann Hayward Walker, called to order the Wetlands/Coastal Dune Board Regular Meeting. In addition to Scott Walker, present were board members Wayne Creed, Russ Dunton and Jim Weiner. Also present were Town Planner Tom Bonadeo and Town Clerk Libby Hume. There were no members of the public in attendance.

### CONSENT AGENDA

**Motion made by Russ Dunton, seconded by Jim Weiner and unanimously approved to accept the agenda as presented.**

Town Planner Tom Bonadeo stated that the minutes from the February 17, 2009 will be reviewed at the May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### NEW PROJECTS

#### *Beach Projects – Town of Cape Charles*

Tom Bonadeo presented the planned beach projects for this spring and summer as follows: i) removal of the snow fence nearest the water along the beach; ii) removal of the existing post and rope where the beach grass has grown westward; iii) installation of new posts and rope westward of the beach grass line; iv) installation of the volleyball court will be in the same location as last year; v) installation of beach steps for access to the beach from the fun pier; vi) the old access from the first fun pier platform to the beach trail will be closed off; vii) installation of snow fence in an east-west orientation in areas between the dune and the Bay Avenue sidewalk; viii) installation of wood walkways from the sidewalk to the beach at Monroe Avenue and points north; ix) addition of beach sand at the north end of the beach; and x) grading of the Mason Avenue and Bay Avenue entrances to make an ADA ramp for access to the fun pier. Tom Bonadeo stated that he had submitted budget amounts for the beach work this summer, but as of this time, the funding appears to be in doubt.

There was further discussion regarding the rock jetty, beach cleaning and the beach as one of Cape Charles' best assets. The Board members listed the top three assets of the Town, in their opinions, as the beach, the harbor and the Bay Creek Resort & Club.

#### *Cape Charles Breakwater Project*

Tom Bonadeo informed the Board that the Town has received the last permit from VMRC. This project consists of 2400' of breakwaters with open spaces between six segments with the two end segments turned inward to make them more effective without blocking the channel. Tom Bonadeo went on to explain that the Town first designed the breakwater system to provide protection for additions to the Town's portion of the harbor. Funding for this project was initially sought from the Virginia Port Authority but the Port Authority did not have enough money to fund the project in last year's allocation. The Town is working with legislators to get this funded as part of the Stimulus package, but no response has been received as yet.

*Bay Creek Aqua Project Update*

Tom Bonadeo informed the Board that the first part of the project, which had to be completed prior to June 1, 2009 to protect the Tiger Beetle on the beach, was completed last week with the installation of the rock and the final landscaping is in progress. The beach nourishment will be done between September 15<sup>th</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup> in order to protect the Tiger Beetle and the water turbidity for the nearby clam planting operation. There is still some discussion with the Army Corps of Engineers about permits and sand size.

*VMRC Letter to Bay Creek – SAV Replacement*

Tom Bonadeo explained that in 2005, the Town and VMRC permitted seven breakwaters along the Marina Village and during the assessment of the project, Bay Environmental did an estimate of the amount of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) that would be impacted by the breakwaters and beach nourishment. VMRC received a report from Bay Environmental on the post-construction SAV survey showing a loss of .5552 acres. Per the permit, the compensation ratio for the loss of SAV is 2:1 which amounts to 1.1104 acres or 48,369 square feet of SAV that needs to be planted.

*Harbor Development JPA Review*

Tom Bonadeo stated that the Harbor Development was granted Conditional Use Permits for a marina, boatel and mixed use buildings along with a hotel on the Portunity Site. The project is fairly large and consists of the following items: i) the removal of the old dock and bulkhead; ii) removal of the old buildings on the site; iii) installing sheet piles to outline a new marina area; iv) fill behind the sheet piles to create new uplands; and v) the installation of docks, which are proposed to be outside of the applicant's property boundary and into the Federal Channel, to create the marina area. The project is partly in the Resource Protection Area (RPA) and partly in an RPA that is designated as an Intensely Developed Area (IDA) and redevelopment in the RPA is generally allowed for water-related activities such as marinas. The items for consideration are: i) redevelopment in the RPA for marinas; ii) SAV replacement; iii) upland addition and removal; and iv) protection of the RPA behind the marina. Tom Bonadeo explained that a public hearing and another regular meeting have been scheduled for Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 PM and the applicant, representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers and VMRC are expected to be in attendance. Tom Bonadeo asked the Board to further review the information included in this packet in preparation for discussions regarding this project since a decision must be made within 30 days of the public hearing.

**Motion made by Russ Dunton, seconded by Wayne Creed and unanimously approved to adjourn the Wetlands/Coastal Dune Board Regular Meeting at approximately 5:40 p.m.**

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Acting Chairperson Scott Walker

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Town Clerk