

## **DOWN EAST COUNCIL MINUTES**

**DATE:** Jan. 5, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER:** DEC meeting comes to order at 7pm, UMC Williston.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Lillie Miller (Straits), Tom Hesselink (M'berg), James Morris (Straits), Barbara Blake (Gloucester), Cecil Tuten (Williston), Mark Eakes (M'berg), Janet Eakes (M'berg), Anna Hilting (Otway), Brandy Piner (Otway), R. Piner (Williston), Pete Fulcher (Williston), Candace Christian (Williston), Karen Piner (Williston), Mark Tuten (Williston), Jerry Brown (Williston), Leslie Daniel (Williston), Richard Lowdermilk (Atlantic), Art Noyes (Atlantic), Dave Boileau (Atlantic), Anthony Nelson (Harkers Island).

**WELCOME:** Lillie welcomes all, solicits email addresses, reads last month's minutes.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Action Items Update:

- Roads improvement. Mark Eakes: No update.
- Fisheries? BGB: update, Preserve America grant will be submitted this month
- Coastal roadside market update: no updates.
- Mariners Park: Richard – still investigating.
- Website: Lillie - DEC News w/ page dedicated to DEC. We need updates and stories. FaceBook page rolling w/ announcements etc.
- Clean Sweep: Tom - no, will happen in October
- Drug pickup: Anthony, no.
- Education: Mark Hooper on that committee and is absent.
- Board rep on county boards: 1/3 has DE rep. Need to get more folks involved. Seats are commissioner appointed so we can approach Jonathan Robinson.
- Sign report: Richard Lowdermilk explained project. Needs to come before commissioners – scheduled for Feb meeting. DEC needs to submit letter w/ ask (2 locations etc). Dave B: We need to start thinking about how signs will be paid for.
- SWC Connections. Barbara talked about the SWC collaborative transition and upcoming plans, as well as the online heritage trail. "How can we get the word out about the trail? Should go on DE Community News. Flyer at the Post office?" Anna H. asked (after meeting adjourned) B&Bs can be on there – about 5 houses in M'berg are vacation-rentals by owner.
- Electronic waste: James Morris wrote letter to County manager Russell Overman. Has not received response as yet. Goal: get electronic waste bin at one DE waste site.
- Williston Clam House: Tom H – Conservation Fund has it taken care of and will start in the Spring. Q: do community members have a voice in what this will be used for? Williston attendees came to meeting to express their concern. Lillie: nothing will be done w/out public input. What will the process be? Karen Piner: bathrooms bother me, kids hanging out and vandalizing them. Sharp curve. Asbestos. "We don't want a development there." James: Karen A. spearheaded idea for this as a heritage site. James explained DOT/Conservation/military

flyway connections. Concerns from Williston folks: Big gas tanks are there, still underground (used to be a gas station), sharp curve dangerous. All built on a shell pile. Would never perk; bad place for a bathroom. You can find the breakwater poured by state years ago. Back of Elmer's store was overboard. That burned down. Now just clam house. No property there. Will be a hangout for potheads. Concerned for our neighborhood. Barbara: Historical commemoration for Clam King? Historical info fine but "we don't need no bathroom under it!" (Cecil Tuten) and if you commemorate the Clam King you better include his brother and mention Jarrett Bay Boatworks, etc. as well. "Uncle Charlie run his brand new Buick Century overboard!" James: County owns it and therefore will seek input, probably looking to the DEC to facilitate the discussion about the Clam House. Discussion of who owns property across street.

**Action: Express to Karen community interest and concerns re: Clam House site.**

**New Business:** None.

**Community updates:**

James thanked the Atlantic parade committee, was proud to represent DEC in parade. DEC should have float next year. Art: People wanted a CD of parade – Atlantic could have a "how to" guide of parade, and communities could sell CDs as a fundraiser for their community.

Harkers Island: Lillie - Museum had a Christmas tour. Next year perhaps each community could have a tour w/ competitive spirit. Used trolley from Beaufort. Maybe make it bigger next year, DEC partnering w museum.

Lillie - Photography club: Jan 20 at museum.

Coastal Voices: Barbara told about the project and the Jan. 18 meeting at CSWM 2-4pm. Cecil Tuten said, "My brogue would tear that recorder up!"

**Next Meeting:** Feb 2, 7pm. Williston.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned 8pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Barbara Garrity-Blake, Secretary