Minutes Educational Advisory Committee (EAC) 17 June 2019 - 1:30 - 3:30 pm

In Attendance:

Lauren McCann, Business Ken Fisher, Forestry Gary Shafer, Property Owner Gary Aronhalt, Watershed Coordinator Julie Bortz, Administrative Council

Absent:

Bruce Taliaferro, Education Sarah Duck, Marketing Willie Lantz, Agriculture Richard Matlick, Property Owner Bob Sutton, Property Owner Greg Rouse, Recreation

Welcome /Opening Remarks:

Gary Aronhalt announced that **Willie Lantz**, **Greg Rouse**, and **Bob Sutton** had reported that they would not be present for the meeting. **Gary** stated that **Julie Bortz** would be attending the meeting to provide an update from the Administrative Council.

Administrative Council Update

Julie Bortz announced that zebra mussels were found in Hyde's quarry in Central Maryland. Julie gave an update on the State Lakes Fund and discussed the need for an education fund for marketing/ signage. **Julie** also stated the hydrilla program has been very successful. **Ken Fisher** stated that it is important to keep the public aware of the threat of invasive species. **Julie** mentioned that DNR had received funding under an aquatic Nuisance Management grant in the past and thought that this may be a good source of funding to obtain cleaning equipment for marinas. The EAC discussed the benefits of a meeting with the Marina owners to reinforce the importance of AIS education and awareness. The EAC asked if the PRB could require an annual meeting of marina owners. **Lauren McCann** suggested that an early March meeting work best for marina owners.

Watershed Outreach:

Gary Aronhalt presented draft copies of slides for the Garrett 8 Cinemas and AIS advertising for the Republican newspaper. The EAC reviewed the slides and approved of

their use for advertising. The EAC then reviewed the AIS information for the Republican. **Gary** said that he and **Julie** had reviewed the information with staff from the Republican and the cost would be \$234.00 for a 5x6 ad. The next size up would cost \$327.60 per run. The EAC preferred the larger size and suggested running the AIS information in the Republican for 10 weeks. The EAC also suggested running the AIS information in the Garrett County Weekender. The committee determined that the total cost of the campaign was currently between \$4,000.00 and \$6,000.00. **Julie** said that she would inquire about any further discounts for publishing the materials. **Julie** also suggested that it would be desirable to have the information published by July 4th.

University of Maryland Interns:

Gary Aronhalt stated that Garrett County would partner with the University of Maryland by have masters candidates enrolled in the Environmental capstone course work on a wake boat research project. **Gary** distributed the outline for the deliverables. The EAC suggested that it was important for the students to have an overview of Deep Creek Lake and to visit the area in-person. The EAC suggested that the students visit between July and October. **Gary** stated that the course organizer had stated that many students were distance learners and may not be able to visit. **Gary** said that he would ask if at least some of the students could visit Deep Creek Lake and participate in a boat tour.

Meeting Conclusion:

Gary Aronhalt asked the committee for a count of all known current boat sales locations. The EAC determined that there were 7 local sales locations, 1 in PA that sold to the Deep Creek area, and 2 rental services.

The meeting was adjourned.

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