

**Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
Community Resources Advisory Committee
Five Rivers Delta Resource Center, Spanish Fort, AL
April 6, 2016**

Welcome, Introductions & Overview of Agenda (Amy Newbold)

- Each organization was asked about their connection to the MBNEP Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (see chart below)

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION	CCMP CONNECTION
Amy	Newbold	Mobile Bay NEP	Deputy Director of MBNEP
Mareike	Flatow	Mobile Bay NEP	Facilitator/MBNEP Volunteer
Carol	Adams-Davis	Mobile Bay Sierra Club	Actively involved in oil spill and restoration efforts, excited to see us move forward in this committee.
Mark	Berte	Alabama Coastal Foundation	Environmentally focused K-12 and adult education programs. Currently participating on other Mgt Conference committees.
Hank	Caddell	Alabama Coastal Heritage Trust	Land conservation, beach protection, endangered species
Casi	Callaway	Mobile Baykeeper	Ensure oil spill money is spent on good projects with public input
Walter	Ernest	Pelican Coast Conservancy	Land acquisition and protection, actively involved for more than 20 years.
Kellyn	Garrison	The Nature Conservancy	TNC has worked in this region for more than 35 years and is committee to long-term restoration – projects that will restore the health and resiliency of the Gulf.
Meg	Goecker	Alabama Coastal Heritage Trust	Acquisition of land for conservation
Yael	Girard	Weeks Bay Foundation	Protecting coastal wetland habitats. Land conservation.
Tammy	Herrington	Conservation Alabama	Let citizens/voters know about issues affecting conservation and protection
Kara	Lankford	Ocean Conservancy	Science and monitoring of restoration projects. Gulf is an ecosystem that needs to be cared for as a whole. Involved in the SAC and PIC.
Jordan	Macha	Gulf Restoration Network	Works to identify restoration priorities for the Gulf region and advancing those priorities in federal, state, and local decision-making venues.
Jill	Mastrototaro	National Wildlife Federation	As part of the oil spill recovery, ensure science and public input guide restoration decision making.
Jeremiah	Newell	Mobile Area Education Foundation	Continue to expand their efforts to educate students and improve our quality of life. Educator by training.
Michael	Pierce	MLK Avenue Redevelopment Corporation	Actively participating in implementation of Three Mile Creek Watershed Plan.

Recap (Amy Newbold)

- February 16th, 2016 – group of non-profits came together to discuss forming a separate committee under the MBNEP Management Conference. At this meeting you decided:
 1. To form a separate committee called the Education and Advocacy Committee
 2. The Committee’s purpose would be to provide a space for larger capacity and regional nonprofits to advocate for and educate on the implementation of the CCMP.
 3. That this committee would be made up of more regionally focused nonprofits
 4. This committee would focus on advocating for specific projects within the CCMP:
 - Habitat Conservation and Protection
 - Clean Water Future Campaign
 - Low Impact Development
 - Environmental Education and Outreach (including Monitoring)
 - Connecting Environmental Justice Communities
- March 4th, 2016 – MBNEP presented your recommendation to the Executive Committee for the creation of the Education and Advocacy Committee
 1. Executive Committee approved the formation of the new committee.

Old Business (Amy Newbold & Mareike)

- Naming the Committee
 - Executive Committee opposed the original name of Education and Advocacy Committee. Proposed “Community Resources Committee”
 - After discussion, the participants voted to keep the name Community Resources Committee.

Background/History of MBNEP Management Conference (Amy Newbold)

Amy Newbold, MBNEP, gave a brief background of how the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program was founded.

- Clean Water Act (CWA) Amendments in 1987 gave us Section 320 which allows for the development of National Estuary Programs
- In 1995, the State of Alabama submitted a nomination package for the Mobile Bay Estuary.
- The package was approved by EPA in September of 1995.
- Section 320 of the CWA requires the development of a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP), and it requires that each NEP form a management conference of stakeholders to develop and implement the CCMP.
- MBNEP’s first CCMP was completed in 2002.
- Starting in 2010, the MBNEP starting revising the CCMP and the Management Conference structure to focus on what people value most (access, shorelines/habitats, fish, heritage and culture, environmental health and resilience, and water quality)
- The current CCMP is for 2013-2018.
- Priorities outlined in the CCMP include the following:

Habitat	Major Stressors/Impacts	Major Ecosystem Services Affected
Freshwater Wetlands	Land Use Change Fragmentation Dredging and Filling	Nesting for birds and turtles Biodiversity Wildlife Fisheries

Intertidal Marshes and Flats	Sediment Sea Level Rise Fragmentation	Biodiversity Fisheries Wildlife Water Quality
Streams and Rivers (Riparian Buffers)	Freshwater discharge Land Use Change Sediments	Fish Biodiversity Water Quality Sediment

- Some of the major MBNEP Goals/Objectives in 2016 include:
 - Start watershed planning process in:
 - Dauphin Island/West Fowl River
 - Delchamps/Deer River
 - Dog River/Garrows Bend
 - Tensaw Apalachee
 - Weeks Bay
 - Wolf Bay
 - Bon Secour
 - Hammock/Little Lagoon
 - Implementation of watershed plans in:
 - D'Olive Creek
 - Three Mile Creek/Eight Mile Creek
 - Fowl River
 - Monitoring pilot in D'Olive Creek (see monitoring framework on mobilebaynep.com)
 - Develop a watershed comparison and communication tool
 - Work with CAC to build a strong volunteer monitoring network
 - The Clean Water Future Campaign (www.cleanwaterfuture.com)

Group Exercise – Evaluating the Current EPI Goals in the CCMP (Mareike Flatow):

- Purpose of this Exercise was to ask the CRC participants to identify the Education and Public Involvement goals for the CRC from the current 2013-2018 CCMP.
- This outcome of this Exercise will be shared with the CAC for review and comment. A revised EPI table will be incorporated into the CCMP.
- The CRC will develop a full workplan at subsequent meetings after 2 Co-Chairs have been elected.
- The results of the Exercise are included in an Excel spreadsheet attached to these meeting minutes.

Discussion of the Election of Co-Chairs (Mareike Flatow & Amy Newbold)

- Mareike facilitated a brainstorming exercise of what the roles and expectations would be the CRC Co-Chairs:
 - Representative of the members and fair
 - Keep the Committee on task
 - Strategic thinker and able to assist the Committee in prioritizing
 - Good facilitator skills/Facilitator Leadership Style
 - Positive attitude/good rapport with other committees
 - Good communicator
 - Broad vision and knowledge of goals of MBNEP CCMP

- Encourage participation with the Committee (especially for non-local/bringing people to table)
- Be able to effectively delegate
- Be responsive and timely on deliverables
- The election process was discussed at it was decided that the following process would guide the election of CRC Co-Chairs:
 - All nominations of Co-Chair candidates would be submitted by COB on Wednesday, April 13th.
 - Amy Newbold would then contact all the nominated candidates to make sure they are willing to serve.
 - A Survey Monkey will be sent out by Monday, April, 18th electing the first Co-Chair.
 - All ballots/responses must be submitted by Wed, April 20th.
 - A second round of voting will be sent out and all ballots/responses must be submitted by COB on Friday, April 22nd.
 - Once Co-Chairs are elected, they will meet with MBNEP and coordinate the next CRC meeting goals and objectives.
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:05pm.