



Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
Community Action Committee
Wednesday, March 13, 2019
Five Rivers Delta Center
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. 2019 Work Plan
 - a. Resource Guide
 - b. Heritage & Culture
 - c. Citizen Scientists
3. Membership Growth
4. Presentation Schedule

Call-In/Webinar Instruction:

To join by **computer** (webinar) click the link below from your computer or tablet and follow the instructions. You may be asked to download the Zoom computer app. Please accept this download if you are prompted to do so.

<https://zoom.us/j/793171376>

To join by **telephone** please dial, 1-646-558-8656 and when prompted for meeting ID please enter in 793-171-376



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Minutes

Takeaways

- The CAC agreed to develop a citizen's resource guide to hazardous waste disposal
- The CAC members will discuss with their groups the need of documenting their local areas heritage and culture.
- The CAC agreed to focus on expanding the citizen scientists' program to include invasive species and rainfall monitoring.

Welcome and Introductions

10:10 a.m.

Mrs. Kelley Barfoot opened the meeting by introducing herself and stating to the members the MBNEP has re-organized roles within the organization and the Community Action Committees (CAC) past leader, Mr. Jason Kudulis, will now be overseeing the Science Advisory Committee (SAC). She stated she would be the staff contact for the Community Action Committee from this point forward. Mr. Kudulis will continue to be involved with the CAC's water quality monitoring activities.

Resource Guide

Mrs. Leslie Gahagan discussed the need of communities having a resource guide to waste disposal. The guide would contain facts and information regarding where to dispose and how to properly dispose of hazardous materials including but not limited to paint, tires, combustibles

etc. Mr. Gary Freedman stated its important to have a list that is very detailed because there are certain materials that individuals do not realize are hazardous. He stated there are existing matrices available to use as a guide such as EPA and RCRA. The group agreed this would be a good project to implement for 2019. Mr. Ronald Phelps stated it would be ideal to have this information on a website where the items can be searchable. Ms. Mimi Fearn said the Clean Water Future website would be a great location to incorporate that capability. The group agreed.

Heritage & Culture

Mrs. Gahagan discussed with the group the opportunity of the MBNEP researching local resources who can help grassroots groups to organize and document the history of their local areas. She stated there are numerous ways of documenting resources such as oral history videos, photos books, etc. The group agreed this was a good idea and they would discuss it with their members and will let Mrs. Barfoot know if their group is interested.

Citizen Scientists

Ms. Fearn discussed the need to expand the citizen scientists' program to include more monitoring activities. She stated there is a need to monitor and map invasive species. The Water Rangers app would be a good tool to use because it has location tracking capabilities. She stated the monitors would have the ability to snap a photo and their location be tagged and uploaded to the Water Rangers site. This would give a good overview of where invasive species are throughout the two counties. Mr. Eric Holladay agreed this would be a good activity for the Dog River Clearwater Revival to conduct with their members. Mr. Phelps stated there is a need to monitor rain fall. He stated there are areas surrounding Little Lagoon that are highly affected during heavy rainfall events. Mr. Homer Singleton stated a good monitoring system is the CoCoRaHs. He stated there are Acurite manual systems available that are much more affordable. It was suggested to contact local police stations, fire stations, etc.. to install the CoCoRaHs systems where a constant wifi connection is available. The group agreed that invasive species and rainfall monitoring would be good projects to implement in 2019. Mrs. Gahagan asked if the NEP could purchase monitoring stations for target areas. Mrs. Barfoot stated she will discuss this option with Mrs. Roberta Swann, NEP Director.

<https://www.cocorahs.org/>

<https://www.acurite.com/shop-all-acurite/environments/rain-gauge.html>

Membership Growth

Mrs. Barfoot showed a list of groups who have participated in the past on the CAC and asked if she should try to reach out to any of them to rejoin the CAC. The group agreed the member's present at the meeting are the ones who are active in the group. However, they stated there are a few groups on the list who might be interested in rejoining based on the topics and projects to be implemented in 2019. The group agreed for the co-chair and Mrs. Barfoot to reach out to those groups.

Presentation Schedule

Mrs. Barfoot stated the NEP is currently booking speaking engagements for the 2019 year. Ms. Fearn from Dog River Clearwater Revival and Mr. Harold White with Fowl River Area Civic Association stated they would be interested in having someone speak to their groups to give a watershed management plan project status update. Mrs. Barfoot said she would reach out to the directors of those groups to schedule. Any other groups who would be interested, please contact Mrs. Barfoot.

Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting dates for the CAC are:

*May 8, 2019: 10-12 p.m. @ Five Rivers Delta Center

September 4, 2019: 10-12 p.m. @ Five Rivers Delta Center

*Two participants stated there is a scheduling conflict on May 8th and requested the meeting date to be changed. An updated scheduled will be emailed to the members.

Meeting Adjourn

11:34 a.m.