

**Minutes for Board Review
Kent Narrows Development Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting (in person & via Zoom)
May 24, 2022**

Board Members Participating

Jody Schulz, Chair
Pat Worns, Secretary
Victoria Hoffman, Treasurer
Justin Kiernan
Kelly Phipps

Absent with Notice

Mike Foster
Sheryl Jaros
Joe Pomerantz, Vice Chair
Jason Ruth
Jason Tuel
Jeff Smith
Walt Thompson

Commissioner Liaison

Phil Dumenil

Guests

Linda Friday, QAC Chamber of Commerce
Bente Cooney, QAC Chamber of Commerce
Scott Davies, Narrows Pointe

Queen Anne's County Staff

Stephanie Jones, QAC Planning and Zoning
Nancy Scozzari, QAC Parks and Recreation

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Kent Narrows Development Foundation commenced at 9:01 a.m. The meeting was conducted in person and via Zoom video call. There was not a quorum present, so the meeting was informational in nature. No actions were taken.

Financial Report

Victoria Hoffman reported the following balances from the April financial reports.

April statement QAC: KNDF 570 Fund, due from QAC, \$186,735; KNDF Amenities Fund, due from QAC, \$50,000. Future payment due from Amenities Fund \$17,191. The balance in the Shore United Checking Account was \$11,289. Chesapeake Charities Fund, \$8171.00.

Sample statements from the new cloud-based QuickBooks online program were reviewed. The team is working on finalizing the new protocols for the statements.

Public Comment

Bente Cooney stated that Plastic Free QAC is kicking off a campaign to encourage restaurants and customers to stop using plastic straws. An event to publicize the effort will be held at Cult Classic on June 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner's Report

Phil Duminel reported that the Commissioners will vote to ratify the Queen Anne's County Comp Plan and the Kent Narrows Community Plan.

Economic Development

Heather reported that Katie Clendaniel has taken a new job in Salisbury and that a search for a new tourism manager is underway. The TTAC meeting for this month is canceled. The EDC will be going on a tour of agritourism sites in June.

Parks, Recreation and Public Landings

Nancy reported that there have been problems with motorized vehicles using the trails. Motorized vehicles aren't allowed, except for motorized wheelchairs. The seasonal rangers have been hired, and the improvements at Wells Cove continue. The department is arranging for more plantings to go in on slopes next to the trail on the drawbridge. Nancy wants to plant more shrubs between the crape myrtle plants in the fall so mowing can be minimized.

The Connector Trail was temporarily fixed and is open; they are taking measurements monthly to monitor it for safety and make sure no sinking or settling occurs. The permanent repairs will take place in late fall and early winter.

She has money in the budget for Phragmites spraying, so that will continue in the WVC.

There is an effort underway to create a regional trail coalition called the Eastern Shore Regional Trail Council. DNR presented heat maps that show the trail usage. She explained that the heat maps are now used to measure the level of trail usage. The maps revealed that the Cross Island Trail has a heavy level of usage as compared to other trails on the peninsula.

Nancy was asked if there could be a rack card or other public relations effort to communicate the rules of the trails to both residents and visitors, to make them more aware. That articulated the rules of the trail because of the number of requests that are coming in. She said some is working on trail etiquette. Nancy was asked to provide the KNDF with the rules of the trail to place on their website and in the materials that the Foundation produces. The rules also be needed for the materials to be funded through the Safety Grant.

Director's Report

Comp Plan/Community Plan

The Commissioners will vote on the final versions of the 2022 Queen Anne's County Comprehensive Plan and the Kent Narrows Community Plan. Most of the changes that Foundation requested have been made. The Final Plan was released for late on Friday afternoon. The graphic elements in the Kent Narrows Community Plan have been changed since the November and January editions were released. This is mainly because of the problems with the poor readability associated with the maps and the layers on the maps. KNDF suggested making the following corrections in the new material that they didn't have the opportunity to review.

PDF Page 5 (page not numbered) add Vice Chair after Joe Pomerantz and Secretary after Pat Worns

Page 38

Recreational Transportation

5th paragraph, first sentence change "may" to "many"

Page 73

Map 16

The Bridges Restaurant Property is miscategorized as institutional

Page 86,1:5

Acronym should be KNDF

Appendix:

Add KNDF and DPW to the list of acronyms

The Commissioners have two resolutions ready for approval tonight. One is for the Comp Plan, and one is for the Kent Narrows Community Plan.

https://www.qac.org/DocumentCenter/View/16417/Resolution-22-04-and-22-05_QACCP-and-KNCP-Adoption

The sewer capacity issue is addressed in the resolutions, which will enable the plans to be reopened and revised as solutions are found regarding capacity and allocation.

Text Amendments

KNDF's comments on the two text amendments that directly pertain to properties in the WVC was turned in to the Planning Commission. The dates for hearings on the amendments are not set at this time.

Wayfinding Project/ Safety Grant

The Foundation was awarded a \$97,000 Community Safety Works Award Grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for the project. A follow-up meeting with the County and Gable will be scheduled to discuss the scope of work that the grant will cover.

Promotion and Community Outreach

The Kent Narrows episode of Delmarva Life aired Monday 5/23 at 5:00 p.m. on WBOC, and re-aired Tuesday morning on the sister station, FOX21, at 8:00 a.m. Links to the show and segment will be posted and distributed to show participants on Thursday. A week of radio and tv promotion preceded the programs. Participants included: Harris Crab House, Dessert First,

Holiday Inn Express, Hilton Garden Inn, Bridges Restaurant, QAC Tourism and KNDF. Thanks to Joe Pomerantz for serving as spokesperson and to Kirby Schulz for serving as boat captain while we filmed from the water. Gigi will send the link out to the board.

Hyatt Place Update

Skip Coleman is the new sales and marketing director for the new Hyatt Place. We met with Skip to familiarize him with the area and the marketing programs and resources that will be beneficial as the hotel builds its customer base. Skip previously worked at the Clarion in Ocean City and at the Hyatt in Cambridge. Jody remarked that they are working to get the hotel open prior to the Bridge Run on November 12.

Legislative Matters

The ban on fishing on or under the Rt.18 drawbridge will go into effect July 1, 2022.

Bay Bridge Study

The Queen Anne's County Conservation Association has filed a Maryland Public Information act request for the purpose of inspecting how the Maryland Transportation Authority considered different no-build solutions as options in the recently released Bay Crossing Study. Here is the link to the study: <https://www.baycrossingstudy.com/feis-rod>

Events

Basket Tree

Planning for the 2022 Watermen's Basket Tree event has begun. The committee is looking at the site in front of the Crab Deck as the probable location this year. The date will be the first Saturday in December. The build date will be the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Chesapeake Bay Motoring Festival

The Yacht Club is planning the Chesapeake Bay Motoring Festival for June 4 and 5.

Air National Guard Concert

The Air National Guard Band is scheduled to perform a Patriotic Concert at the Yacht Club on June 25.

The concert is free. The Club will charge \$10 for event parking.

KNDF is helping generate publicity for these events.

Funding for Landscaping Contracts

The funding for the landscaping contracts will total around \$32,000. The budget hearings are this week. Phil Dumenil and Todd Mohn have indicated that the funds will be allocated for that effort. KNDF will arrange a meeting with the County to go over the details of transferring the maintenance of specified areas in the WVC for KNDF to oversee.

Old Business

Kent Narrows Travel Guide

The updated Guide is posted on the KNDF website. The new print version is in the process of being updated. Here are the pricing options that were presented for the Board to consider.

5,000 Booklets

- Full Color Glossy Cover

-Design & Graphics included

Overall size – 7.75” w x 9.75” h

100% of Content supplied by Kent Narrows Development Foundation

Pricing Options:

32 pages + cover @ \$5,500 – current size 40 pages + cover @ \$6,250

48 pages + cover @ \$6,750

It was suggested that the 40-page option would be the one that is optimal at this time.

570 Fund Withdraw

To be sure that the funds are in place for expenditures scheduled for late June and July, a draw of \$20,000 was made from the 570 funds. The new funds from the KNSTD are scheduled to be available in mid-late July. A letter requesting the withdrawal will go to the Commissioners.

Gigi will contact board members for approval of the above-mentioned initiatives.

CHVC Boat Launch, Bulkhead and Pier

Paul Sidon, QAC Public Works, provided a written update on the improvements to the shoreline in front of the Chesapeake Heritage and Visitors Center. He was unable to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict. The project is moving along but is delayed. Enforcement provisions, signage, and how this new facility will be managed is still being developed.

An updated plat reflecting the changes from the original plat will be requested by the KNDF. It will include grading and accommodate the plans for the second phase of the project which includes the parking lot and lawn area in front of the CHVC. This is needed to properly blend the improvements with the KNDF’s wayfinding and regulatory sign projects.

Gigi noted that the original design that was reviewed by the KNDF was revised. Discussion occurred and several board members encouraged the County to develop and communicate what uses will be allowed on the new pier and what rules will be needed for boats, fishing, and pedestrians when the new facility is complete. The rules for the management of the new pier will also need to be communicated.

The board recommended sending a letter to Todd Mohn asking that he coordinate a meeting with the county department reps who are involved.

The boat pier was funded by DNR boating funds, so the primary use of the new improvements will be focused on boating and not necessary on fishing.

New Business

Jody suggested that communication be sent to board members prior to the next meeting to request that every effort be made to attend meetings and to attend in person if possible.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Georgeanna (Gigi) Windley,
Executive Director
Kent Narrows Development Foundation

Certification:

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Minutes that were adopted by the Directors of this Foundation on June 28, 2022.

Patricia P. Worns, Secretary, KNDF