

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
Horn Point Laboratory

Mid-Shore Regional Council members traveled to Horn Point Laboratory and toured the facility with guides Linda Starling and Liz Freedlander preceding the MSRC meeting. The tour began at 10:00 a.m. and Members arrived at the pavilion for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

Chairman Bartlett called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.; Members in attendance included: Chairman Dirck Bartlett, who also stated he was in possession of a proxy for Senator Colburn, Talbot County Manager John Craig, who also stated he had a proxy for Andy Hollis, Delegates Addie Eckardt and Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Carolyn Spicher, Gale Nashold, Jerome Stanley, Rick Price, William Cooper Sr., and Water Chase. Guests included Linda Prochaska representative for Senator Mikulski, Lee Whaley representative for Senator Cardin, Richard Sossi representative for Congressman Harris, Barbara Viniar and Michael Dugan of Chesapeake College, Brad Powers and Kevin Deighan of Shore Gourmet, James McCormick the Technologies Director for Caroline County, and Donald "Mutt" Meritt the Director of Horn Point Laboratory's Oyster Hatchery. MSRC staff present was Terry Deighan and Scott Warner.

Approval of June 21, 2012 Minutes

Chairman Bartlett asked if everyone had a chance to review the Minutes and if so was there a motion on the floor; Mr. Price made a motion to approve the Minutes of June 21, 2012, Delegate Eckardt seconded the motion and the Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Ratification of Executive Board June 7, 2012 Minutes

Next order of business was ratification of the Executive Board Minutes, Mr. Chase made a motion to ratify, Delegate Eckardt seconded the motion and the Minutes of the Executive Board of June 7, 2012 were ratified by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report

In Treasurer Kurt Fuchs absence Mr. Warner presented the Treasurer's Report. He stated that all expenses are on track and EDA funding should be on schedule now, as the grant was signed and returned by MSRC. There were no questions on the report, Mr. Price made a motion to accept the report, Ms. Eckardt seconded and the report was accepted into record by unanimous consent.

Old Business

Business and Technology Parks

Caroline County

Caroline County Technologies Director James McCormick stated that presently there is one company interested in the Tech Park and that Caroline Economic Development Corporation Executive Director JOK Walsh is currently communicating with them.

Dorchester County

Dorchester Councilman Rick Price stated that presently the County's economic development office is following up on a few leads that have shown interest in the facility. He also stated that the county supported the Start-Up Maryland tour that made a stop in Dorchester County last week.

Regional Medical Facility

Talbot County Manager John Craig stated he was happy to not be repeating the same report he has given for the last few meetings but stated that the Certificate of Need was applied for on September 7, 2012 by Shore Health System. This is a 6-9 month process. The EDA grant was also submitted on September 14, 2012 by Talbot County and co-applicant Town of Easton in the amount of \$1,650,000. If everything goes according to schedule groundbreaking should be late Spring 2013, with an anticipated opening date of 2016. Mr. Craig gave a big thanks to the Mid-Shore Regional Council and their partners for their help with the document.

Maryland Broadband Cooperative (Mdbc)

Mr. Warner stated the Mdbc Vice President for Public Affairs Tyler Patton sent the following updates.

The Mdbc is currently working with members in the region to lease fiber to provide to the private sector and they are connected to the Caroline County and Dorchester County regional tech parks. The Mdbc Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2012 starting at 11:00am in Annapolis. For details please contact Tyler Patton, Vice President for Public Affairs at tpatton@mdbc.us or 410-341-6322.

Maryland Upper Shore Transit (MUST)

In MUST Coordinator and CBRTCE C.E.O. John General's absence, Mr. Warner gave the following updates.

The MSRC received and accepted the MUST 2012 grant documents. MSRC received the FY2013 Statewide Coordination and Technical Assistance (SCATA) grant documents last week and the grant was accepted and returned this week. These funds are put with Counties' funds to operate MUST. The JARC/New Freedom FY2014-2015 grant application meeting was held at Chesapeake College on June 28, 2012. JARC/New Freedom grant application booklets are available at the MSRC office and deadline for submittal is November 1, 2012 by 2:00pm. MUST is the JARC/New Freedom regional coordination body for Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties. Also, 20,000 schedules were printed and delivered to MSRC office on July 30, 2012. There are approximately 500 schedules remaining. The DCT and QACR received the schedules at the August 1, 2012 meeting of the MUST Committee. Regarding the bus advertising MOU, revenue sharing has been agreed to by all parties involved.

Eastern Shore Entrepreneurship Center (ESEC)

In ESEC Executive Director Mike Thielke's absence Mr. Warner gave the following update regarding the establishment of the Eastern Shore Entrepreneur Ecosystem.

Technical Assistance:

ESEC received a MAERDAF grant in support of creating an entrepreneur web portal for the Eastern Shore.

ESEC participated in the StartUp Maryland – Pitch Tour by coordinating Eastern Shore leg of statewide pitch competition offering rare promotional opportunity for startup entrepreneurs.

Training:

Shore Venture courses (Wor-Wic Community College, Chesapeake College), Classes scheduled at Chesapeake starting October 2012 and March 2013, also at Wor-Wic starting January 2013.

Pencil to Plow course – ESEC provided grant to Salisbury Chamber Foundation in support of entrepreneur training program targeted to those wanting to start farms.

Tech Transfer initiative – ESEC participating with four Delmarva community colleges in tech transfer initiative, 4 symposiums during October/November 2012, pilot course at Wor-Wic February/March 2013.

HotDesks co-working spaces are opening locations in Salisbury and Easton with the assistance of EDA funding through the MSRC.

Capital:

ESEC was awarded \$1 million in funds through the U.S. Small Business Administration Intermediary Relending Lending Program

ESEC applied to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Maryland Microenterprise Loan Program (MLP) for \$250,000 of relending funds.

Business Plan Competition is underway, awards in December 2012 at Dorchester Economic Summit, 1st prize \$20,000, 2nd prize \$10,000, 3rd prize \$5,000. Winners must locate business on the Eastern Shore.

Shore Gourmet

Shore Gourmet General Manager Kevin Deighan stated that recently two labels have been completed for new producers. Through this process a networking system has been established to create labels incorporating all necessary items: UPC code, nutritional values, etc. Both labels were for Delaware producers.

Mr. Deighan also stated he along with Brad Powers visited Cecil County, he asked Mr. Powers to elaborate. Mr. Powers stated that they met with members of the Cecil County Extension Service as well as 13 value added producers. A brief presentation on Shore Gourmet was given and then one-on-one interaction followed. After the meeting Mr. Powers and Mr. Deighan did three site visits. The first to an orchard where an over abundance of peaches was a present, the owners feed them to their live stock but Mr. Powers stated that SG hoped to find an alternate use for the over stocked peaches. This turns out to be a problem among many producers. They also visited a dairy farm that produces ice cream and a producer that makes infused honey. Mr. Deighan stated that from that trip he is currently working with a BBQ sauce producer called Hambone. He is also communicating with the orchard they visited Milbourne Farm in Fair Hill, Delaware

regarding their interest in adding bison to an established farm; a follow up meeting has been scheduled for January.

Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative (ESRGC)

Mr. Warner stated that ESRGC Director Mike Scott and Program Manager Lauren McDermott sent the following updates.

The ESRGC is actively working with GeoDASH Initiative partners (MSRC, TCCLES, BEACON, and EDA) to finalize budget for Initiative's final year while supporting Dashboard development for the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulations (DLLR). The DLLR Dashboard is an online, interactive tool designed to visualize data related to the supply and demand of Maryland's workforce as well as the education and training opportunities that exist in the state. The dashboard incorporates data from a variety of sources including Maryland Workforce Exchange, Unemployment Insurance, and Maryland Higher Education Commission. Presentation of DLLR Dashboard to Governor should happen in the near future.

The Maryland Broadband Mapping Initiative (which the Maryland Broadband Cooperative manages and ESRGC leads) launched a new version of their website (www.mdbroadbandmap.org). The ESRGC is, in particular, looking for stories of how high-quality, inexpensive broadband service has made, or could make, a difference in your home or business. For more details, see the website.

Critical Area Map Updates in Talbot County are complete and the County will be receiving letter from the Critical Area Commission on October 1, 2012 indicating the two-year adoption period is beginning. The ESRG continues to work with Caroline County regarding their Chesapeake Bay Critical Area changes. It is preparing to turn over completed critical area changes to Queen Anne's County for verification.

The ESRGC has executed a contract with Denton to provide mapping support for FY13.

They hosted the GIS Committee Meeting on August 22, 2012. It was attended by representatives of the three Mid-Shore and Tri-County Council of the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland and Queen Anne's County.

The ESRGC also updated PCI maps for MSRC.

The ESRGC assisted City of Cambridge with mapping request.

They continue to support updates to the MSRC website.

Dr. Michael Scott was appointed to the Governor's Maryland IMap Executive Committee to represent the interests of our region and higher education. Mr. Bryan Ebling of Caroline County Emergency Management was also appointed, to represent our region and E911 interests.

Finally, in exciting news, the ESRGC and Texas A&M University – Qatar have worked out a framework of an agreement to develop a security GIS for the TAMUQ campus and affiliated areas. This doesn't impact the Mid-Shore, per se, but does show the ESRGC's growing national and international reputation...and that's good news for the MSRC!

In addition Mr. Warner added that the MSRC has been facilitating meetings between ESRGC and Shore Health System (SHS) to discuss a possible pilot project regarding GIS data base development to assist in scheduling of client appointments. The outcome of this project would be beneficial for the clients, SHS, and public transportation providers.

BEACON

Mr. Warner stated BEACON Director Memo Diriker sent the following update.

GeoDASH Initiative

At the request of the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland, Salisbury University has petitioned the EDA to become the sole applicant/fiscal manager of the EDA GeoDASH grant.

Broadband Planning Grant

Updates have been made to the draft version of the project report based on feedback from stakeholders. A final version will be ready later in the Fall.

Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for the Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River

Mr. Warner stated the Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee were appointed. The Chair is St. Mary's County Commissioner Todd Morgan and Vice-Chair is Calvert County Commissioner Jerry Clark. A federal grant application was submitted during the summer and it was approved in the beginning of September. Total project cost \$464,000, of which the federal funds are \$417,000, and the three Southern Maryland counties' match is \$47,000. The next step is the process to appoint members to the two technical advisory committees.

New Business

Mr. Warner stated that he along with Mr. Thielke (ESEC) and Mike Pennington (Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore) will be touring the Chesapeake Gold Oyster facility on Hoopers Island to better understand the operation. There is an opportunity to submit an EDA grant application to assist the aquaculture industry.

Other matters

Scheduled Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) meeting

The first CEDS Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at 12:00pm at the Talbot County Free Library in Easton.

Member comments/requests

None

Adjourn

By a motion from Delegate Eckardt, seconded by Mr. Craig, the meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m., by unanimous consent.