

# THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS

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## Waterways Management Advisory Board Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 4pm Town Office

Call to order – John Marrah opened the meeting at 4:05pm.

Present: John Marrah, Mark Van Fleet, Mark Welsh Roy Myers, Commissioner Mike Bibb, Planning and Zoning Officer Kymberly Kudla and Town Manager Jean Weisman were present.

Approval of minutes:

Member Van Fleet made a motion to approve the minutes as amended of January 8, 2019 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Myers and carried on a vote of 4:0 in favor.

Chairman Marrah acknowledged Mr. Myers for his efforts in preparing the materials regarding sea level rise. Member Myers continued with the presentation of his report which included a suggestion to the zoning re write committee consider expanding the regulatory flood plain and a second area for consideration based on the information of flooding a flexibility of the height restriction of 35 feet.

Member Marrah's' recommended adding 1 foot to the minimum increased height over the current 2 ft. and allow properties in the flood plain the ability to request a variance to the board of zoning appeals. Ms. Weisman suggested members provide a report to the commissioners along with comments. The recommendation to the Commissions should be to the Zoning re-write Committee along with a recommendation to amend the Floodplain- Chapter 173 of the Town Code.

Mr. Bibb spoke of the effects of climate change on sea level rise.

Members continued to discuss nuisance flooding in the Town of St. Michaels.

Member Myers suggested seeking Grants; DNR has Community Resilience Grant and Fema has Grants for pre-mitigation. Mr. Bibb added that it would be necessary to include a report/analysis showing why the money is needed and plans to address flooding, the study would need to be by a professional service.

Ms. Weisman suggested Members make request that the Commissioners fund a study by a consultant to provide analysis of short and long term solutions to flooding in St. Michaels. Look for grant money to study and or in the absence of money ask the town to fund the study.

Myers suggested the Waterways Committee seek funding from the Commissioners in the budget we will pursue. Mr. Marrah asked if this was in the scope of the Waterways Committee, the scope is of the harbor not the surrounding areas. His intent was to come up with a concept of a study and provide to Commissioners with an interest level on their part.

Mr. Myers notes are as follows: Action Items from Waterway Advisory Board Meeting on 2/26/19

1. 2019 Tracking of Nuisance Flooding  
J. Marrah – Patriot, R. Myers – St. Michael's Marina and M. VanFleet - to develop a plan.
2. Members agreed to forward Flood plain input to Towns Planning Commission and Zoning Re-write Committee. Completed on 3/5/19.
3. Develop yearly Waterway Advisory Board Report for St. Michaels Commissioners- Report would overview projected plans for Back Creek Dock and New Kyak Floating Dock and recommend study to develop feasible strategies and costs to address critical nuisance flooding areas around St. Michaels Harbor – Roy Myers to develop initial draft.
4. Set up site visit to St. Michaels by DNR to review Nuisance Flooding and investigate potential grants for study, meeting held 3/8/19.
5. Meet with Geneva Harrison of Talbot Emergency Management to update her on St. Michaels Nuisance Flooding and get insight on possible FEMA grants.

Ms. Weisman read the duties of the Waterways ....into the record

Member Myers made contact with Nicole Carloza of the DNR, Fred Beddell, Geneva Harrison of Talbot County.

Mr. Bibb is chairing a committee regarding sea level rise the end of March/April time frame with the elected officials.

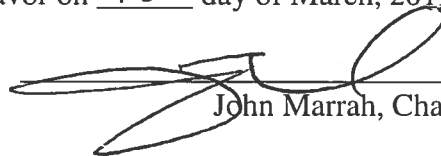
Chairman Marrah concluded the meeting with a review of his top 10 items to combat rising tides.

Other matters from Advisory Board or Staff:

Next meeting date: Tuesday March 12, 2019 at 4pm in the Town Office.

The meeting adjourned at 5:54pm.

Minutes approved as submitted by 4 vote in favor on 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

  
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John Marrah, Chairman