

**MINUTES**  
**NOTICE BOARD MEETING**  
**June 13, 2016**  
7:30 P.M.  
Portner's Landing Community Room

**Present:** Matt Hennesey, Howard Middleton, Anne Olson, Tom Soapes, Christa Watters, Roger Waud, Fran Zorn, Ernie Lehmann, Clarence Tong

**Guest:** Nick Kuttner, Member, Board of Directors, Potomac Riverkeeper Network

President Tom Soapes called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The order of the agenda was suspended so that Mr. Kuttner could make a presentation about the 150-year-old Combined Sewer (Outfall 001) that discharges mixed storm water and sewage into Oronoco Bay in North Old Town. He explained the basic issue of the longstanding pollution of the Potomac River from this source and urged that NOTICE lobby our City Council and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to push for a solution to the problem more swiftly than is anticipated under current plans. We need a new Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) he said, and should demand that one is produced. He did not know the amount of sewage per annum in gallons that is discharged from the outlet but said it is significant and happens whenever there is more than about a quarter inch of rain. He said we should inquire from the City and that he would also try to e-mail us more information [He did subsequently send a position paper indicating the amount to be 70 million gallons per year. City sources from the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) questioned by board members said 50 million gallons, or 40 percent of the total combined sewerage discharged into streams in the City annually. See attached document for more details.]

---

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 9 board meeting were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report/Membership:** Treasurer Clarence Tong reported NOTICE has a bank balance of \$9617.23 as of the May 23 statement. Membership stands at 217 individuals. Tom reported that he has sent in the annual report to the State Corporation Committee and our registration fee as a nonprofit organization.

**Election of New Board Member and search for others:** Tom introduced potential new board member Anne Olson, a Watergate resident of three years. The board unanimously elected her to join our number. We discussed ways to recruit more new members for the elections coming up in November. Ernie Lehman has stated his intention to step down from the board at that time.

**SAP Update:**

1. Tom reported on the final Small Area Plan Advisory Group Charrette to be held June 23-25 at 66 Canal Center on the second floor. There will be a pre charrette forum on Arts Districts on Thursday evening prior, workshops all day on Friday, a Community Meeting on Friday evening, and then Saturday afternoon a final wrap up and briefing on our progress so far. The Advisory Group will recess for the summer while city staff researches and tests the plan elements proposed.
2. Howard moved that NOTICE recommend that the final SAP plan include some specific guidelines for the nature of development or redevelopment of each block within the SAP area of Old Town North. Matt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Tom will draft.

**Crosswalk Initiative:** Diane Ruggiero, a deputy director in the Alexandria Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Activities and head of the Office of the Arts had announced at an earlier SAP meeting that her office had \$25,000 to spend on a temporary art project in North Old Town. She proposed to spend it on Crosswalk Art – basically decals that would communicate to pedestrians that they are in an arts-friendly part of the city. Not all SAP members agreed, stating that if we have \$25,000, it should be spent on something permanent, like sculpture for a park. Some SAP members intended to state this point at the Charrette. [Update: Some did so, but Ms. Ruggiero was not present.].

**Status of NRG Site:** Tom reported that both Planning Commission and City Council had approved the proposal by PEPCO to divide the NRG site into two plots: one to retain and expand the transmitting station (approximately 5-6 acres) and one to be redeveloped (the former power plant portion of the site, approximately 19-20 acres). This will clarify issues between the two companies and possibly enable NRG to purchase the site as opposed to retaining the long-term lease – making it easier to offer the site for redevelopment.

**Bus Parking Issue:** Anne Olson, who is a member of the Motor Coach Advisory Committee on behalf of NOTICe, updated us on some of the suggested sites under consideration for bus parking now that waterfront development has made some of the former sites in that area (such as Robinson Terminal North along Union Street) unavailable. Tom said he would draft a letter for submission to the committee stating our objections to making North Old Town a primary site for motor coach parking, both on North St. Asaph Street and on the NRG site, as this would lead to more traffic in our neighborhood. The idea to route buses from the historic district to our neighborhood via North Royal Street conflicts with plans to make Royal a “green street” and a major bicycle route.

**VISION and the Federation of Civic Associations:** Tom, a member of the Federation, reported that Darrel Drury has been accepted as a member of the Federation of Civic Associations, but his bid to become an officer was not accepted.

**New Business:** Tom announced the demolition of Robinson Terminal North is slated to begin by the end of the month. [Update: In late July, attorney Ken Wire announced to the Waterfront Commission that the project is on hold while the companies involved in the development reevaluate their options.]

**September Membership Meeting:** We discussed possible speakers, including Stewart Schwartz, director of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, and Delegate Mark Levine, who represents our district in the Virginia House of Delegates. We agreed that Tom should ask Mark Levine first.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Portner’s Landing Community Room.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christa Watters, Secretary