

**Minutes for March 27, 2009 LRNOW Public Policy Committee (PPC)**  
**submitted by Todd Solomon**

Meeting Location: First Landing Fire Station

Meeting Start: Called to order at 6:13 pm by Mary Picardi.

Attendees: (6) members – Mary Picardi, Karen Forget, Hap Chalmers, Chris Ludford, Todd Solomon, Ed Gibbs

Previous Meeting Minutes – Feb 26, 2009 minutes were read and accepted without change.

Next meeting date and location discussion: Thursday April 23, 2009 at the First Landing Fire Station. 2101 Parks Avenue, Suite 700, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Contact Assignments – Linda will take Glenn Davis and Barbara Henley. Ed will take Ron Villanueva and Del. Mathieson. Mary will take Del Purkey. **Action: Todd to get Karen the district maps to determine if other officials are in the Lynnhaven watershed.**

City Council

Mayor Will Sessoms – Hap Chalmers

Bill DeSteph – Hap Chalmers

Vice Mayor Louis Jones – Todd Solomon

Harry Diezel – Chris Ludford

Bob Dyer – Ryan Ferguson

John Uhrin – Mary Picardi

Jim Wood – Colleen Swingle

Rosemary Wilson – Demaris Yearick

Ron Villanueva – Ed Gibbs

Glenn Davis – Linda Strickler

Barbara Henley – Linda Strickler

State Legislators

Sen. Ken Stolle – Ryan Ferguson

Del Joe Bouchard (83<sup>rd</sup>) – Todd Solomon

Del Bob Purkey (82<sup>nd</sup>) – Mary Picardi

Del Bob Mathieson (21<sup>st</sup>) – Ed Gibbs

General Updates presented by Karen Forget:

**VB Green Ribbon Committee (VBGRC)** - Karen emailed committee members the minutes from the VBGRC. She brought a copy of the VBGRC planned phases to the meeting. The VBGRC will be meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> to determine what needs to go to Council for a vote. These items may be possible actions for the LRNOW PCC. The VBGRC report has been adopted by Council and any code/ordinance changes resulting from the report have to come through Council by the normal process. That is where we will come into play.

**Governor's Award** – Visit the Dept of Environmental Quality (DEQ) site for more information on the award of excellence.

**LRNOW Symposium** – **ACTION: Karen will email information on the symposium as she gets it.**

There will be 10 presentations and the event will be held Monday May 11<sup>th</sup> from noon to 6pm at Cape Henry Collegiate.

**VB Sustainability Advisory Team (VBSAT)** – The consultants will be visiting VB on May 13 & 14. Karen will send out more information as she receives it. There may be some possible action for the PCC from this team.

### Meetings with our Contacts. Updates by the PCC

**Councilman John Urhin** – Mary met with John. She thanked him for the Council's support. John knew of LRNOW. Mary went over the packet with him. She also asked him about Light Rail and the VBSAT.

**Councilman Louis Jones** – Todd had not met, but had a scheduled meeting. Louis did not respond to his VBgov email address. Phone calls worked with him.

**Councilman Harry Diezel** – Chris met with Harry. Chris gave him 2 tickets to the Oyster Roast. Harry also received 2 from a sponsor. Chris gave him the packet which Harry appreciated. Harry also confirmed he enjoyed the Lynnhaven River.

**Mayor Will Sessoms** – Hap played phone tag with the Mayor. He gave the packet to the Mayor's Administration Assistant. Hap confirmed that the Mayor will be attending the Oyster Roast and will provide the opening remarks.

### New Business

**Political Actions** - Linda and Demaris went to DC to lobby. More updates on their progress will be given at the next meeting.

**Fall Candidate Forum** – The Sierra Club has expressed interest in partnering with LRNOW on this event. Discuss was held on if we should invite the League of Women Voters to also participate. Consensus was to not include them because their issues wouldn't be environmental. Event should be held at Cape Henry Collegiate. **Action: Future discussion on candidate forum will be managed by email as to dates and format.**

**LRNOW Webpage Update** – There was a lot of discussion on determining the PCC's Mission, Goals and Tasks. The following is a summary of the final outcome.

*Mission* – Promote dialogue between Lynnhaven River NOW and Virginia's elected and appointed officials.

*Goals* – *Develop, Educate and Promote*

**Develop** a rapport with individual officials by maintaining frequent contact with them.

**Educate** elected and appointed officials on all public policies sponsored by LRNOW committees.

**Promote** LRNOW events, activities and initiatives to elected and appointed officials.

*Projects* – Hold candidate forums with emphasis on environmental issues

### Upcoming Events

**Blue Planet Forum** – March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7pm

**Civic Engagement Summit** – April 4<sup>th</sup> at 9am in Suffolk. [www.hrcce.org](http://www.hrcce.org) for details

**LRNOW Oyster Roast** – April 18<sup>th</sup> from noon to 3pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

### Resulting Action List:

- 1) Todd to get Karen the district maps to determine if other officials are in the Lynnhaven watershed.
- 2) Karen will email information on the symposium as she gets it.
- 3) All - Future discussion on candidate forum will be managed by email as to dates and format.
- 4) Each PCC member that hasn't yet, needs to meet with their respective council member before the next meeting.