



DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE  
**INLAND BAYS**  
Research. Educate. Restore.

## Draft Notes

### Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

#### Citizen's Cafe

##### DATE & TIME:

August 24, 2023 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

##### LOCATION:

###### Option 1: In-person

Delaware Center for the Inland Bays office  
39375 Inlet Road  
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

###### Option 2: Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83174379002>

Meeting ID: 831 7437 9002

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,83174379002# US

+19292056099,,83174379002# US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcEQnCJBLu>

##### ATTENDEES:

- Meeting called to order by: Claire Simmers  
CAC members: CAC members: 8 (1z-7), Lee Bunting, Gail Dubowe, Frank Piorko, Tia Ouyang, Ken Sigvardson, Ken Silverstein, Claire Simmers, Richard Watson
- CAC not present: (6) Dennis Bartow, Gary Cannon, Rick Chamberlin. Stephen Gonski, Amanda Pappas, Cheryl Rehrig
- Public: 8 (3z:5)
- Center staff: 5 (3z-2) Caitlin Chaney, Anna Fagan, Jackie Knoll, Lisa Swager, Christophe Tulou
- 7 Zoom 14 in person (21)

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##### AGENDA: Environmental Justice

##### 6:00-6:15 pm — Welcome and Introductions

- Welcome - Claire Simmers, CAC Chair
- Susie Ball Remembrance - Christophe Tulou, CIB Executive Director

**6:15-6:45 pm — Guest Storytelling - Cumulative Impacts Study - Ferry Akbar Buchanan, EPA Region 3**

- Identify communities in Sussex County that exhibit negative health outcomes influenced by social vulnerability, pollutant exposures and lack of access to services.
- Develop indicators to identify communities: Flood Exposure Probability; Health Access; Community Health Burden; and Social Vulnerability
- EJ community help with decisions about water quality, etc.
- Identified communities: Seaford, Laurel, Millsboro, Milford
- Identify environmental restoration projects that could be implemented in partnership with the community. Holding Community Listening Sessions
- Facilitate inclusion of underserved communities into CIB and PEEP
- Leading edge research on ground level
- Attendee comments:
  - Gail Dubowe: impact of biogas facility; eastern gas in Bridgeville since they are a high-risk area. Impacts on air and water quality
  - Eul Lee – bringing waste into the area from other locations
  - Richard Watson – centralized with licensed professional, centralize is a good solution; there will be by-products and waste.

**6:45-7:00 pm — Center Storytelling**

- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, Accessibility (DEIJA) Committee - Dr. Marlene Saunders, committee Chair
  - Getting the committee up and running
  - Working with Anna to begin a project

**7:00-7:15 pm — Citizen's Input**

- Eul Lee is CIB using GIS for surveying?  
Christophe Tulou answered that is how it is done
- Natalie Katz - Spill at waste water treatment plant – sewage pump that broke effluent flowed; out of abundance of caution DNREC puts 21-day window banning of oysters, etc. and no reported concerns.
- Eul Lee – sunny day flooding effects – any studies on containments from sunny day flooding?
  - Christophe Toulou: Any washing water over impervious surfaces will have an impact. Vehicles impacting additional load as move through the waters. DELDOT beginning study – resiliency – public safety – long term containments of these flooding.
  - Frank Piorko – DE storm water protections not changed much. What is missing is population thresholds. Municipal separate stormwater efforts and reports not pulled together. EPA did not get the traction with Coastal Sussex to address storm and water issues.

**7:15-8:00 pm — CAC Discussion**

- Approval of CAC meeting minutes - April 27, 2023 – approved with no comments or changes
- CAC working groups update - Claire Simmers, CAC Chair

- Tia Quyang - Member roles; working plan, communication part,
- Ken Silverstein - Rare Earth – working group 2. Sept 1 activities resources
- CAC open discussion
  - Natalie Katz – EPA and different governments – share concerns with improving communications
  - Each CAC member briefly discussed their passions and backgrounds
- Center Updates
  - Anna Fagan, CIB Deputy Director
    - BIL Strategic Plan and Equity Plan
    - Detail how CIB will contribute to Justice 40; 40% goal
    - EPA definition of disadvantaged community; use EPA tool
    - Georgetown, Long Neck, Oak Orchard, Millsboro & Selbyville
    - BIL could also include
      - Bridgeville; Georgetown, Gumboro, Laurel, Milford & Seaford
    - Will be resource for working groups; focus on our watershed first
    - BIL no match; can it be used as a match? No
  - - Lisa Swanger, CIB Director of Outreach & Education
    - Upcoming activities
    - PEEP many partners implementing actions; Aug 7 PEEP annual work group meeting.
    - 2024 Habitat Comprehensive Plan being drafted – Bio Habitats helping to develop the plan.
    - James Farm Photo Challenge
    - Sep 7 - James Farm Celebration end of season 4:00pm
    - Sep 21 - Sussex County Commission and Planning & Zoning joint meeting. Submit comments and can attend
    - Sep 21 - Decked Out at Hyatt Place in Dewey Beach
    - Oct 1 Sunday – Coast Day (Lewes)
    - Nov 2 - Annual Friends of the Bay and Volunteer Award – Crooked Hammock

**CAC 2023 meetings**

**6PM - 8:00PM**

**Zoom and Center Conference Room**

**Thursday, October 26, 2023**