

Dear Bald Head Neighbors,

Many of you are aware that the debate between the Village of BHI and the BHI Club on water quality has lasted a long time and cost tax payers and club members hundreds of thousands in legal and “expert” expenses. We all pay both parts of this as property owners and club members.

I have received questions on various pieces of this issue and now Suzanne Dorsey, the BHIC Executive Committee and several interested Conservancy members and I believe it is time for the Conservancy to initiate a citizen focus group to review the ecology perspective of the questions. We will not include questions of ownership, access or easements. **The focus would be on what is best for the island.**

Three members have agreed to actively participate in the effort ... DeWayne Anderson, Tom Hayden and Dr. Ken Reckhow. DeWayne and Tom are respected community members and current members of the Conservancy Board of Directors. Ken is a past member of this board and island property owner. His very pertinent experience and credentials include: Duke University Professor of Water Resources; Environmental Sciences & Policy and PhD Environmental Science and Engineering, Harvard University. Dr. Reckhow's experience lies in Water quality assessment and management, water quality modeling, risk assessment, and decision analysis. Ken will offer his opinions/recommendations on the science and not make recommendations on policies, decisions, and management actions

The format will be similar to the approach we have used this year in the Deer Management review with Doug Oakley's participation and Suzanne's enabling support.

My charge to this group will be that the Community Focus Group:

- Should review the issue of water quality:
 - Primarily the Reverse Osmosis (RO) discharge issue.
 - Also to include other pressing water quality concerns from the scientific perspective.
 - This review will not include questions of ownership, access or easements.
- Should include the following in the process:
 - Invite various scientific inputs.
 - Conduct community informational meetings on the issue.
 - Report back to the Conservancy Board, the BHI Club BOG and the Village of BHI on results of the effort.

1. The initial organizational and planning meeting is Friday, August 31st at 9:00 AM at the Conservancy.
2. The Village of BHI has agreed to support the effort.
3. The BHI Club BOG has agreed to support the effort as resources permit.

Thanks for your interest in a community view on this important question. I believe that **any issue can be resolved by thoughtful people who keep the best interest of Bald Head in the forefront.** We will update the community on progress, meetings and results.

Dick Johnston
BHI Conservancy President