

TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH COUNCIL CHAMBERS
January 21, 2009 4:00 o'clock p.m.

STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dan Sine called meeting to order at 4:05pm. Members in attendance: Ken Harbin, P.L. Mabry, Dan Sine, Jerry Strange, Ty Taylor. Absent: Bill Blankenship.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE – lead by Dan Sine at 4:06pm.

AGENDA & MINUTES APPROVAL

Ken made a motion to approve minutes of November 18, 2008 meeting as presented. Jerry seconded the motion. No discussion. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

Ty explained that Steve Cooper from Cooper Sand & Gravel was not able to attend this meeting as indicated on the agenda. Cooper Sand & Gravel had encountered a broken gearbox and was in the process of getting that repaired. Mr. Cooper will be at the next meeting. Dredging of Floral Lake is three quarters complete. Palmetto Lake is the final lake to be dredged. Ty anticipates it will take longer to move the equipment involved than it will to actually dredge Palmetto Lake. Water quality testing will be done when all lakes are done. Jerry asked if it was normal to have “bleeder streams back up” during a heavy rain. Ty answered “yes, but there was no flooding”.

Ty reported that all bids for the Dogwood Lake bulkhead had been refused. The Town is very impressed with the work Eco-Systems did on 14th Avenue North. We will be researching what Eco-Systems can do at Dogwood. Russ Britton from Eco-Systems spoke to the committee regarding the Edge Saver at 14th North. He explained that the compost sock has been very successful stopping erosion. His company has done lots of work at Grand Dunes. He invited the committee to visit Grand Dunes to see the sock in action. We can actually plant native vegetation in the sock so that it creates a “green barrier”.

Committee members received a copy of the “Keeping Our Water Clean” brochure. Jerry commented that he felt the brochure was very professional. Ty explained that every town resident would receive a copy of this brochure over the next few weeks. The brochure will also be available on-line at the Town website. Everyone was pleased and felt that this was a positive step in Stormwater education. The committee also requested that a copy of the brochure be included in the minutes of its’ meeting.

Ty presented the committee with options for types of fish used for stocking ponds. The committee also said it would go to Scott LaPect (sp?) from DNR for recommendations. Nicole Saladin stated that Scott would be present at the February 24th workshop. It was also stated that we couldn’t stock a lake with carp if there is no algae present in that lake.

The question of the next enhancement project was brought up to committee. It was determined that future enhancement project have been put on hold until completion of projects currently underway. Jerry asked about the status of the holding pond behind the bowling alley. That is a county issue. Councilman Doug Samples, who was in attendance, explained that there is currently a lawsuit pending dealing with the county and stormwater issues. It was stated that the gazebo has been installed at Magnolia Lake and that possibly one would also be installed at Dogwood. EarthWorks has the plans that P.L. Mabry submitted.

A discussion took place regarding the number of stormwater committee meetings. P.L. stated that he thinks one meeting a month is too much. Ken asked if a decision on the number of meetings could be tabled until after the February workshop. Committee members agreed.

Chairman Sine asked if Town Council would be present at the February 24th workshop. Councilman Johnson, who was in attendance, replied that he thought most council members would be present. Council Samples asked the committee if this workshop would cover the same information that was presented in 2005. Ken explained that the intent of the workshop was to educate staff and committees involved in planning and beautification. The possibility of organizing "Lake Associations" would also be discussed. The workshop would take place from 3:30pm until 5:30pm on the 24th in Council Chambers. Ken asked Nicole Saladin of the Coastal Training Program to respond to Doug's question. Nicole explained that she would be present at the workshop. Her interpretation of the purpose of the workshop would be framing the issues and providing background to staff so that there is a common level of understanding in regard to stormwater issues. P.L. said that it is a tough item to sell the concept of buffers with natural (native) vegetation instead of landscaped grass. Most property owners want their yards to look nice. Ty explained that Town employees cannot go on private property and that the Town cannot share costs for things done on private property. Nicole added that we must educate all Town residents in regard to stormwater since they all have an interest in water quality. Different areas require different designs. In the case of Dogwood, it is necessary to build land up to water level. Ty stated that the Horry County Manager said all bids received for the Dogwood bulkhead were too high even with the County only being responsible for 70% of the project. Unfortunately with today's economy, money will certainly be an issue with all stormwater projects.

Committee members stated how pleased they were with how great 14th Avenue North turned out. The cost was \$138K for the Edge Saver. The required permits took time and cost money. Councilman Bob Childs, who was in attendance, said that the sock has worked great at 14th North. It was stated that EarthWorks would be involved with the engineering on Dogwood. Nicole asked if the workshop could be held from 3:00pm until 5:00pm so that council members would have some time between the stormwater workshop and the budget workshop scheduled for that same day. Committee agreed with that suggestion. Nicole also asked the committee to look over the agenda and make recommendations to her. It was determined that the workshop not be open to the public but focus on Town employees and committee members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Sine opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Ken asked for clarification on monthly council meetings and workshops. Town Administrator Booth answered that council had not voted to change the set-up. Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Ken also suggested that possibly the Stormwater committee hold a workshop and then a quarterly meeting. Ty mentioned that Public Works staff works from 7:00am until 4:00pm so that it would be helpful if information for them could be presented from 3:00pm until 4:00pm at the workshop. Nicole said that would not be a problem. Chairman Sine stated that the interaction taking place between committee members, Nicole, and those in attendance at the stormwater meetings was very helpful, informative, and enjoyable. Ty made a motion to forego the February meeting and have everyone attend the February 24th workshop instead. Jerry seconded the motion. No discussion. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED. Ken made a motion to schedule the next meeting for the third Tuesday,

March 17th. Jerry seconded the motion. Discussion followed regarding the time of the meeting since that is St. Patrick's Day. It was suggested that the March meeting begin at 4:00pm. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17th at 4:00pm in Council Chambers.

ADJOURN

Ken Harbin made a motion to adjourn. P.L. Mabry seconded. No discussion. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED. Meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Saleem
Executive Assistant DPW
Town of Surfside Beach