

STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dan Sine called meeting to order at 5:06pm. Members in attendance: Ken Harbin, Melodye Lane-Laveglia, Dan Sine, Jerry Strange, Ty Taylor. Absent: P.L. Mabry.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE – lead by Dan Sine at 5:07pm.

INTRODUCTION: Chairman Sine introduced new member, Melodye Lane-Laveglia to the committee and the residents in attendance. He thanked her for serving.

AGENDA & MINUTES APPROVAL

Ken made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Jerry seconded. No discussion. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED. Agenda accepted.

Ken made a motion to approve minutes of March 17, 2009 meeting as presented. Ty seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Dan stated that he had not read the minutes. Ken withdrew his motion. Approval of March minutes was tabled until next business meeting. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

- a. Enhancement Projects – Chairman Sine deferred to Director Taylor. Ty presented each committee member with copies of the blueprints for enhancement projects at Dogwood and Floral lakes. He also provided councilmen Childs and Samples with copies. Beautification funds will be utilized for these projects. Stormwater will pay the engineering fees involved. It was noted that P.L. had provided both background planning and drawings for these enhancements. Dan asked about a time frame for completion. Ty explained that both projects would need council approval before we could move forward. If/when council approves, projects will be put out for bid. Ken asked about stocked fish getting out of the lakes at high tide. Ty explained how fish would be contained. Ken made a motion to accept the blueprints and to take the project before council. Chairman Sine asked if there was any discussion. Ken asked that background information be given to Melodye. Projects were then explained to her. Ty seconded the motion. Dan asked Ty if there were any other plans for other outfalls. Ty stated not at this time. No other discussion. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR with the exception of Melodye who deferred – MOTION CARRIED.

Ken asked if there is a maintenance plan from Eco-Express in place for the natural vegetation at 14th Avenue North. Ty stated that he would have to get in touch with Russ from Eco-Express to clarify. Committee discussion followed were members agreed that it is essential for the Stormwater committee to meet with the Beautification committee to make sure everyone is on the “same page”. Ty stated that he would bring the Stormwater Committee’s recommendations to the Beautification committee at their next meeting on July 27th.

Chairman Sine asked how to get committee information correctly posted and/or updated on the town website. Secretary Saleem advised Chairman Sine to contact Micki Fellner who is in charge of the town website.

- b. Fountains – Now that the lake dredging is complete, how do we keep them in shape? Ty explained that Grounds has initiated a spraying schedule that seems to be working well. Ty submitted pictures of several fountains and aerators that could be used. Jerry asked for an update

on the dredging. Per Ty, all dredging work awarded per bid to Cooper Sand and Gravel been completed. Crews from Public Works completed the maintenance work needed at the north end of Palmetto Lake. Ty explained that it is up to council which lakes will get fountains. Price depends on the lake design. Ben Powell from Clemson asked to be recognized by Chairman Sine so that he would share some information with the committee. Dan gave Ben permission to speak. Ben explained that whatever you install, fountain or bubbler, you need ½ HP for every acre. He reiterated what Ty has said about the design of the lakes. Bubbler systems are more efficient. Fountains will not control vegetation. It may be more efficient to run fountains at night. This practice works well to prevent fish kill. Aeration is an insurance policy against fish kill. Ken asked about operating costs. Ben stated that costs are dependent on what is installed, etc. Committee verified that presently there are three bubblers in Floral, one in Cherry that was installed by a homeowner on the South end. Ben also reminded the committee that fountains would contribute to shoreline erosion. Ty made a motion that he would like to have further discussion with Ben before the committee brings any recommendations to council. Ken seconded the motion. No discussion. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED. Jerry asked about the status of the geese at the Hermitage. Property owners are dealing with that situation.

- c. Information Brochures – The committee was given copies of the pamphlet on ditches. It is Absolutely necessary to continue to educate the public. These pamphlets will be very useful. Ty explained that ditches can no longer be “cut back”. Public Works crews are being retrained. Jerry complimented Ben on the radio commercial sponsored by Clemson. It really gets the message across that “Everyone lives downstream”. It was suggested that the brochure be handed out along with lake spraying information or included with the Grand Strand Water & Sewer billing. Ken also suggested emailing the brochure to town residents. He will talk to Micki about posting the brochure on the town website. It is essential that this information be made available to the public! Ken also stated that it is one of Nicole Saladin’s goals to establish lake associations to address these types of issues.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bob Childs, 14th Avenue North – said he had spoken with both Nicole and Russ. It was suggested that 14th North be seeded or sodded. This is a pilot project. Some of the plants in the sock have not come up; some have not survived. “Let’s finish one project before starting another!” We do need a maintenance plan for this area. Mr. Childs stated that Nicole said she would be willing to work on such a plan.

Ron Ott, 7th Avenue North – asked why there was a difference in the clarity of the ocean water past the Melody Lane access. The ocean water in Garden City appears to be much cleaner. Is that because there are no swashes there? Dan stated that hopefully we would be receiving grant monies to help solve some of the problems with the swashed.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Dan concurred with Bob Childs that we do need some type of maintenance plan for 14th North. Jerry made a motion that the committee asks Nicole Saladin to draw up such a plan. Ben suggested that there are alternative plants available and he would be more than willing to work with Nicole and the committee on the plan. Ty seconded the motion. No discussion ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED. Ben distributed lists of aquatic plants available to redo the sock at 14th North. He also suggested ornamental grasses and stressed that soil preparation is also important. Jerry asked where such grasses could be purchased. Ben stated that those grasses are available at several “box” stores in the area. Plants are more difficult to get. Ben could direct the committee to vendors such as Skinners and Carolina Nursery in Monks Corners. Ben also stressed the fact that it is the mission of Clemson Cooperative Extension to get landowners to get the most out of their land. It was also suggested that some type of

signage be posted at 14th North acknowledging those people responsible for this pilot project. It was suggested that Ben and Nicole conduct a seminar at the next meeting to discuss vegetation and fountains. Ken reminded everyone that the 14th Avenue North project was to be an example of natural vegetation. There is some concern that the Beautification committee is looking for “pretty”. Ty explained that we must all work together to accomplish goals that are in the best interest of the town. Bob Childs assured the committee that maintenance at 14th North would be done by citizens.

The committee then discussed the EPA study that is taking place in Surfside Beach. It was explained that Surfside Beach is one of two areas to participate in this study. The other area is Puerto Rico. Both these areas are prone to high bacteria levels. The EPA is conducting a study to determine if “coming to Surfside Beach made you sick?” There will be follow-up and a future report with results of this study.

Next meeting will be a seminar held on Tuesday, August 18th at 5:00pm in Council Chambers. Dan and Ken will contact the necessary participants and make certain the information is correctly posted on the town website.

ADJOURN

Jerry made a motion to adjourn. Ken seconded the motion. No discussion. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR – MOTION CARRIED. Meeting was adjourned at 6:19 pm.

Submitted by:

Joan Saleem
Executive Assistant DPW
Town of Surfside Beach