



**Town of Navassa
Environmental & Stormwater Advisory
Committee Minutes**

April 5, 2010

5:30 PM

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members Present: Dorsey Jones Jr., Gregory Westfield, Mayor Eulis Willis

Committee Members Absent: Ella Beatty, John Klein

Staff: Travis Barnes, Town Planner and Beth Sheppard, Planning Intern

Other Attendees: None

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Gregory Westfield called meeting to order at 5:30 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Mr. Eulis Willis and seconded by Dorsey Jones Jr., with any necessary corrections with the motion carried by Gregory Westfield and the vote was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Address Outstanding Issues from DRAFT Stormwater Ordinance:

- a.) Town Planner Barnes announces he sent out drafts of the Stormwater Ordinance to a list of over 20 engineers, environmental groups, community groups, the state, and other professionals to solicit public comments on the current draft. The draft is also posted on the town website for public review. Thus far the only one submitting written comments about the ordinance was Cameron Moore, from BASE, Business Alliance for a Sound Economy and Bill Diuguid, Stormwater Planner with NCDENR Division of Water Quality. The main concern that BASE had pertained to the escrow account where the town will administer the escrow funds for a property's storm water maintenance requirements. Mr. Barnes explains that this aspect of the ordinance will be a difficult issue for the town to enforce and administer and that Cameron Moore made some good points. Mr. Willis asked how much money would be involved in the escrow account. Mr. Barnes replied that it should be a percentage of whatever the storm water budget will be for a particular project based on how many BMPs will be required, etc. Mr. Barnes says he would like to use Lena Springs' old plan to go through the draft ordinance to test the process as an example for everyone of how the town would administer issuing a new stormwater permit. Mr. Westfield asked how Leland handles their ordinance. Mr. Barnes stated that the Leland Stormwater Ordinance uses the language that is similar to the State's Model Ordinance both of which establish an escrow account for funding ongoing maintenance. Mayor Willis inquires if a lawyer would be helpful and Mr. Barnes replies that a lawyer is exactly who could help in advising with the ordinance language. Mr. Willis suggests that they could set up a meeting with Mr. Randy Rhodes, a potential lawyer who could be hired to assist. Mr. Barnes explains that once we have an ordinance in place then NC Division of Water Quality will come in when we issue the first couple permits to assure that it is done correctly.

- b.) Pet Waste Section Revisions – Staff reminds the committee that at the last meeting it was agreed that the ordinance should include a section on pet waste. Already included in a 2002 ordinance is the language that it is unlawful for a dog to not be leashed when off of private property. Staff Barnes reviews the new pet waste language of Section 1-43 (see attachment) highlighting the issues of public nuisance for pet waste not being cleaned up and with new developments being required to install one pet waste station for every 1 ½ acres of designated open space. Staff modeled this new ordinance draft after the City of Wilmington's recent amended pet waste section of their ordinance. At this time the Town does not want to enforce the pet waste with any fine or penalties but wants to strongly discourages pet owners from not cleaning up after their pets. The Committee agreed with the new proposed Pet Waste Section including requirements for new development to have pet waste stations. The committee asked about the current situation with pet waste at existing parks in

Navassa. Mr. Willis supports the idea of getting a pet waste station to start getting the public educated. **Mr. Willis makes a motion that staff looks into acquiring a pet waste station for Davis Creek due to the proximity to the water. Also, Mr. Willis makes a motion that additional signs be added to the Navassa Park clearly indicating that dogs are prohibited from that park.** He suggests that the Police Department can start enforcing this. Westfield asks for a map that would highlight the location of all the town's public parks. Staff will work on this. Mr. Barnes explains that the Storm Water Budget should be able to purchase one of these pet waste stations for Davis Creek.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. *Rain Barrel donation from Brunswick County Soil and Water Conservation District* – Staff and intern Beth Sheppard review the idea for a demonstration rain garden on the side of the Town hall building. Mr. Barnes reported that Mamie Caison from Brunswick Soil and Water Conservation District came out to deliver the rain barrel and took pictures of the site where it is going to be displayed. Intern Beth Sheppard has written a draft plant proposal for the garden for the committee to review. It is suggested that volunteers either from the high school community class or local community member can help with the garden. Members suggest that this garden could be planted in conjunction with the Litter Sweep.
2. *Litter Sweep* – Mr. Barnes suggests the date of Saturday, April 24 from 9:00 to 11:30, with the town providing refreshments afterwards. Mayor Willis suggests asking for volunteers from the Drum and Drill Team. Mayor asks if both events can take place on the same day. Mr. Westfield also suggests that the litter sweep and the rain garden could be combined for this Saturday since the rain barrel is already available. Staff said both events would be on the same day. Mayor Willis suggests that committee members would be responsible for recruiting some volunteers. Discussion about the preparation of the area includes having a work order for the public works staff to cut the gutter pipe for the rain barrel and help with some of the tilling of the existing soil although staff notes that there are some utility or cable lines that need to be considered. Mr. Barnes suggests that the event could be announced on the CTY and he would like to see if the *Star News*, *Local News Review*, and the *State Port Pilot* can make a press release for the event.
3. *Stormwater Poster Contest* – Third and fifth grade classes could participate in a poster contest drawing any specific stormwater aspect such as swat a litter bug, water conservation, polluted rivers, rain garden benefits, tree preservation or any other BMP. Ms. Sheppard stated that 3rd and 5th grade students were selected to participate because the curriculum in these grades includes earth science. Mr. Gregory Westfield inquires about the number of students involved and how the awards will be distributed. Staff said that both the local elementary schools will be participating. The award for the winning participant would allow the poster to be displayed on the town's website and gift certificates would be awarded pending council approval in the following amounts: \$25 for best poster, \$25 for teacher with the most participation, \$15 for runner-up poster, and \$15 for the runner up teacher with the second most participation.
4. *NCLM Green Challenge Update:*
 - a. Green Building Policy- Mr. Barnes has been working on a new “Green Building Policy” for Navassa that would require any new buildings constructed in the town over 5,000 square feet to be LEED certified. Mr. Barnes also included a draft of a Green Building Resolution. Mr. Barnes explains that this does not have to be decided currently but by creating a policy requiring new public buildings to be LEED certified we will fulfill a Green Challenge requirement.
 - b. Anti-idling Policy for Municipal Vehicles – Mr. Barnes solicited comments from other NC municipalities for Anti-idling policies and modeled a draft policy to be adopted by Navassa. The language includes the requirement to turn off a vehicle engine if idling for longer than 20 seconds. There is a list of exceptions in the policy. Mr. Barnes explains that the inclusion of policy will also contribute to the Green Challenge if it is approved.
 - c. Recycled Office Paper Policy- Staff has already been purchasing recycled paper, but Mr. Barnes explains that having this as a written requirement in the town's policy will also be worth points toward the Green Challenge.

Staff Report

1. Planner Barnes announces that town council approved the Committee Stipend of \$25 per meeting, which, Mayor Willis explains will include a retroactive payment.

Chair's Report

1. The next Environmental and Stormwater Advisory Committee meeting will be on Monday, May 3 at 5:30 PM at Town Hall.

Member Comments

Public Comment

Adjournment Mr. Willis motioned for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Dorsey Jones. The meeting was adjourned by Gregory Westfield at 6:40 pm.