

VILLAGE SHORELINE PROTECTION COMMITTEE
Minutes from March 3, 2010 Meeting

Committee Members in Attendance: Andy Sayre, Gene Douglas, Brooke Williams, Anne Kane, Joe Brawner, Bob Blau, Calvin Peck, Chris McCall
Village Council: John Fisher, Art Morris, John Pitera (joined in progress), Ray Webb,
Guests: Joyce Fulton, Tom Hancock

- Acting Chair Williams opened the meeting, welcomed the guests, and presented the agenda (copy attached) which was approved as written.

Report

- Mayor Sayre and Village Manager Peck reported on their visit to Washington DC on February 22-23 to meet with various elected and/or government officials or their representatives, accompanied by representatives of our lobbying firm. The meetings were judged to be a positive step in communicating the Village's challenges, gaining direction for tactical solutions, and strengthening relationships. The specific details of those discussions were deferred to "closed session".

Old Business

- Calvin Peck and Chris McCall informed the group that the dredging for the engineered beach project was "reaching its conclusion". Sand placement should finish in 7-10 days, barring unseen equipment or weather delays. The replacement of the groins will take longer suggesting the need for the extension of the permit from March 31 to April 30.
- Brooke Williams offered the Comprehensive Shoreline Protection Strategy document as suitable for public distribution. This Strategy presents a "working game plan" to follow, laying out five "prime" and ten "enabling" objectives. Sub-Tasks and Time Lines for each objective are detailed with the exception of those which rely on the Village's legal/engineering/lobbying team to execute.

It was agreed that the VSPC will submit this "public" document to the Village Council at its March 19 meeting along with a the abbreviated "summary" document of the full strategy for their simultaneous distribution and public access.

- Discussion of the Delft3D Modeling study relating to its scope of work and cost was deferred until closed session. Its importance as a critical element in understanding the erosion process was affirmed.
- The position of Village Shoreline Protection Manager position, recommended by the Comprehensive Shoreline Protection Strategy, was discussed. The Village Manager indicated he was developing a response to this need and would make a recommendation to Council shortly.

New Business

- The expected 2010-2011 dredging of the navigation channel and related nourishment of Bald Head Island as part of the Sand Management Plan was discussed. This very important component of our Shoreline Protection Strategy relies on Federal funding of the USACE mission and current budget proposals are not encouraging. The matter is a priority item for the Village.
- The prospects of retroactive funding by the State of North Carolina for the nearly completed Engineered Beach Project appear remote. Efforts will continue to attract State funding for other projects.
- Regarding the Prime and Enabling Objectives, elements of the Comprehensive Shoreline Protection Strategy, Williams suggested that the committee turn its attention to prioritizing these objectives and sub-tasks. Additionally, the committee intends to create process management discipline setting individual responsibility for specific actions and completion dates.

Updates

- The VSPC may expand its membership by the addition of “volunteers” whose interest and skill sets match the challenges as suggested by the strategic objectives. Since the Village has only recently publicized its intention to recruit volunteers for restructured village committees, it is reasonable to wait until sufficient time has elapsed before adding members to this particular committee. The Village Council was urged to move quickly to establish the newly charged committees as well as the “ad hoc” NCIT committee.
- We did not discuss the “charge” to this committee or to others except to note that “lobbying” activities included within the “charge” of the Communications Committee may be better attributed to the Shoreline Protection Committee.

- As respects forming a state or federal PAC, this item is “tabled” for the moment on the advice of our lobbying consultants. This does not preclude financial support for candidates, most especially those who support and promote the interests of Bald Head Island.
- There was no update on “hopper dredge” activity.
- There was no report on Village activity in support of repairing the Harbor Groins (timber groins).

Recommendations for 3/19/10 Village Council Meeting

- Accept for distribution and access the public document detailing the Comprehensive Shoreline Strategy.
- Name additional members to the VSPC, if any.
- Name and appoint Chair for the Committee

Public Comment

- Tom Hancock expressed his appreciation for attending the Committee meeting and expressed his interest and support of our mission going forward.

Closed Session

- Motion was made by Andy Sayre and unanimous vote the Committee went into Closed Session to discuss litigation matters, consult with legal counsel, and to preserve privileged information.

Open Session & Adjournment

- Motion was made and by unanimous vote the committee entered Open Session.
- There being no further business, motion was made by Anne Kane to adjourn and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 12:30

VSPC Minutes 3/3/10

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