

Dunedin Causeway and Coastal Waterway Committee

June 18th, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:02.

Members present: Dennis Alspaugh, Anita Apley, Jill Gunn, John Hoopes, Jim Runyon, Kathleen Sands Martin, Glen Steinke, Frank Vanore

Members absent: Dennis Alspaugh (excused), Jeffric Gazlay (excused)

City Staff: Lanie Sheets and Vince Gizzi.

Guests: Natalie Henley (Dunedin Sustainability Coordinator), Greg Rice (Planning & Development), Deputy Aaron Berezny, Brian Ferguson (FWC Officer), Jon Harmony, Kim Begay, Sandie Selvaggio

Minutes from May meeting approved.

Guest Presentation: Natalie Henley, Dunedin Sustainability Coordinator

Natalie has only been in this position for 6 months but has been very active in her new role. She discussed the 100% Commitment of having 100% of City government buildings being utilizing 100% renewable energy by 2035 and the entire City by 2050. The cities of St Pete and Largo have signed on for similar plans. Natalie is also working on the Green Building Award application for the city and has included Dunedin in the Hope Spot (W Coast of Florida) Research Alliance. She related that Duke Energy's electronic charging stations should be installed by the end of 2019. Dunedin also now has a Green Scene area on its city website. This includes a new logo and centralized information. Finally, she announced that 2019 was the 30th straight year of Dunedin being a part of the Tree City USA initiative.

Jill Gunn asked about the Ocean Allies designation and Natalie stated that she is being certified to assess for and award this designation. Kim Begay asked about the Living Shoreline Project with TBEP. John Hoopes asked about current recycling efforts and Natalie promoted the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle strategy, encouraged focusing on the "yes" list of items the collector currently accepts and looking to the Pinellas County A-Z Recycling section of its website for specific guidance.

Greg Rice – Dunedin Draft Comprehension Plan – Coastal Management and Conservation elements

Greg informed the Committee about the City's new Comprehensive Plan and asked for our input on both the coastal Management and Conservation sections. Members will review and present their input at the next meeting.

Causeway Maintenance Report – Large pothole near shower area has been filled in.

Concessionaire Report – There have been some lightning strikes on the Causeway which have caused damage to some sailboats. Beach goers need to be aware of the weather and take shelter for safety. Two rattlesnakes have been captured near the rental facility and bathroom areas. Both snakes were relocated off the Causeway safely. Roughly 6 full business days have been lost this summer due to inclement weather.

Storm Water Report – No report.

Boating report – No report.

CEQ Report – No report

Ad Hoc Bridge Report – No action since last meeting

NE End of Causeway discussion:

John Hoopes asked Deputy Berezney if there had been any police calls for the waters off the NE area of the Causeway. He stated that he had not responded to any calls to this area. Brian Ferguson (FWC Officer) stated that he has not reported to any safety calls in this area as well. He did mention that the area is shallow and he felt as though, from a seagrass health standpoint, that he supported making this a non-motorized boating area. Kim Begay mentioned that this area seems to be having an increased level of waders recently.

OPEN FLOOR: No discussion